

Liberals urge Mideast conference

HELSINKI (R) — The Liberal International (LI), grouping liberal politicians, Saturday condemned Iraq's takeover of Kuwait and called for an international Middle East peace conference. In a resolution at the end of their three-day congress, liberals from 30 countries said sanctions were the best way to make Iraq comply with United Nations resolutions but that force may have to be used as a last resort. It called for Iraq's unconditional withdrawal from Kuwait, the restitution of the "legitimate" Kuwaiti government and the return of all foreigners caught up in the conflict. But the LI also urged steps towards what it termed a durable peace in the Middle East, including an international conference. It called for a total ban on production of chemical weapons and the destruction of existing stocks. The LI congress, attended by more than 300 representatives, also adopted a so-called Helsinki declaration on ecologically sustainable development. It said more rapid action was needed to protect the climate and said governments should set a target of cutting carbon dioxide emissions by half by 2010. The liberals proposed a U.N. council for the environment, with similar status and authority to the Security Council.

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Arafat arrives

AMMAN (J.T.) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat arrived here from Baghdad late Saturday after a visit to Iraq.

In an arrival statement carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, he said a "practical solution" to the Gulf crisis while preserving the interests of the Arab Nation is an Arab solution under an international umbrella.

However, he said, "a solution to all problems of the region is a basic requirement."

Arafat, chairman of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), said the Palestinian role "falls within the Arab efforts to solve the problem."

Arafat, who is accompanied by his aide Salah Khalaf and PLO Executive Committee member Mahmoud Abbas, was received upon arrival by Deputy Prime Minister and Interior Minister Salem Mada'adeh and Minister of Culture Khaleel Al Karaki.

PLO urges Palestinians not to attack Egypt

CAIRO (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief representative in Egypt Saturday urged Palestinians living here not to be drawn into actions aimed at "destabilising Egypt's security." Saeed Kamal's statement, distributed by the government's Middle East News Agency (MENA), came two days after President Hosni Mubarak warned Palestinians against carrying out attacks in Egypt. On Saturday, Egypt's largest newspaper, the state-owned Al-Ahram, reported that 23 Palestinians and seven Israelis are in custody for trying to enter Egypt on sabotage missions (see page 2).

2 Jordanians killed in Turkey crash

ANKARA (R) — A bus overturned on a bend in central Turkey Saturday killing 11 passengers, including two Jordanians, state-run radio said. A further 23 passengers were injured in the accident near Aksaray City, 220 kilometres south of Ankara, it added. The radio named the Jordanians as Bahjat Husnu, 35, and Ali Abdul Najjah, 63.

TASS to open bureau in Israel

MOSCOW (AP) — TASS will open a news bureau in Israel, an official with the Soviet news agency said Friday. The exact location of the TASS office has not been decided yet, said Tatyana Kitayeva of the news agency's international department. The bureau chief will be Alexander A. Zhurdo, she said in a telephone interview. It was announced at the United Nations on Sunday that the Soviet Union and Israel plan to open consulates in each other's countries, representing a major step in restoring relations that were cut after the 1967 war.

Ex-head of Egyptian antiquities dept. dies

CAIRO (AP) — Ahmad Kady, who headed the Egyptian Antiquities Organisation through a turbulent six years in the 1980s and lost his job because a rock fell from the sphinx, has died in the United States. He was 59. Friends said Saturday that Kady died Thursday in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, where he was awaiting a liver transplant. Suffering from liver cancer, he fell into a coma before the operation could be performed.

Hizbollah clashes with Syrian troops

BEIRUT (R) — Fighters of the Hizbollah militia clashed with Syrian troops in Beirut's southern suburb Saturday, killing four people and wounding six, security sources said. Witnesses said the five-hour clash broke out over a dispute between Hizbollah gunmen and Syrian troops manning a checkpoint in the Bir Al Abed neighbourhood.

New energy-saving measures take effect Oct. 13 Two-day weekend, revised working hours announced Commercial establishments to close at 7 p.m.

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The government Saturday announced a series of energy conservation measures, including a two-day weekend for all government departments and offices and limiting the evening working hours of commercial establishments except certain essential services.

A statement issued after a regular cabinet session chaired by Prime Minister Mudar Badran said all government offices will observe holidays during Thursday and Friday instead of the present one-day holiday on Friday. The statement said the new working hours will start at 7:45 a.m. and end at 3:15 p.m. Military and security establishments as well as other departments deemed essential by the concerned ministries will be exempt from the regulation.

The statement said the adherence to the measures, which it said were warranted by the emergency situation in the country, will be strictly observed and monitored to ascertain their impact in terms of energy saving.

The statement, carried by the Jordan News Agency, Petra, said all commercial establishments should close at 7 p.m. but pharmacies, bakeries, clinics and gas stations are exempt from the regulation. Restaurants, cafes, clubs and wedding halls and other entertainment establishments as well as cinemas should close by 11 p.m., it said. In addition, all neon sign advertisements should be put off at 11 p.m.

Street lighting will be switched off at 5 a.m. Official cars, including those of ministers, will not be used during Thursday and Friday. The cabinet will continue studies on rationalisation of energy consumption in various fields and adopt suitable measures in light of studies conducted by various ministerial committees, the statement said. It named

the committees as food security committee, rationalisation of consumption committee, price monitoring committee, employment committee, and popular mobilisation committee. All measures will go into effect as of Saturday, Oct. 13, the cabinet statement said.

According to energy experts, these measures would save the government at least 20 per cent of its present oil bills, particularly in light of the dramatic rise in oil prices to around \$33 to \$35 a barrel in the wake of the Gulf crisis and the cut-off in Saudi oil supplies to Jordan last month.

They noted that at least 350,000 people commute to Amman every day from other cities such as Zerqa, Irbid, Mafrqa and Karak and the two-day holiday means a reduction in usage of transport facilities and thus a cut in oil consumption.

Prime Minister Badran, also in a statement carried by Petra, called on the citizens to cooperate with the government in saving energy. He said the government had deferred a decision on limiting the use of private cars.

"The government is studying various measures to support the national economy," Badran said and called on the citizens to rationalise their use of their vehicles and electricity.

The government and parliament were cooperating in launching a campaign among the public to boost the awareness of the need to conserve energy.

Jordan is getting Iraqi oil at concessionary prices but the Kingdom has said it has no plans to increase its present intake of Iraqi oil — estimated to meet 40 per cent of Jordan's needs — and was seeking alternative sources of supply.

Prime Minister Badran confirmed Thursday that Jordan had paid \$6 million to Saudi Arabia in partial settlement of what Riyadh sees as payment in arrears of \$46 million since 1986 and had offered to pay interest on the balance until the issue had been resolved.

"We have asked Saudi authorities to reopen the oil pipeline (closed since Sept. 19) to Jordan because this issue concerns Jordanian people and issues," he said.

(Continued on page 5)

Fahd 'waiting to see if sanctions work'

JEDDAH (R) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia told Japanese Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu Saturday he was waiting to see whether U.N. economic sanctions could force Iraq to leave Kuwait, Kaifu's spokesman said.

"Iraq's invasion of Kuwait is a problem that affects basic principles of international society," Fahd was quoted as telling Kaifu.

"I am waiting to see the effect of the economic sanctions," the Saudi monarch said.

King Fahd also thanked Japan for its \$4 billion package of aid for states affected by the economic blockade and support for the multinational forces deploying in the Gulf region.

"I thank you from my heart, not only from a humanitarian point of view, but also because this strengthens Japan's standing in the international community," Fahd said, according to the Japanese spokesman.

Kaifu restated Japan's position that Iraq must withdraw from Kuwait, restore the legitimate government of Kuwait and free all foreign hostages held in Iraq.

The Japanese leader's Middle East trip has also taken him to Egypt, Jordan and Turkey. His last stop will be Oman, where he will meet Sultan Qaboos in Salalah before going home Monday.

In an arrival statement at Jeddah, Kaifu released a statement expressing respect for Saudi efforts for development and political stability in the Middle East.

"I fully support the courageous endeavour that King Fahd is making in the present crisis to defend the land and the people of Saudi Arabia and to restore peace in the Gulf."

In a pre-visit statement published in the Saudi daily Ashraq Al Awsat and its sister English-language daily Arab News, Kaifu said, "the restoration of peace and security to the Gulf region has special significance to the future of the new world order."

Rocard: France no party to war, will veto resolution

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter with agency dispatches

PARIS — France will not be a party to a war in the Gulf and will veto any United Nations Security Council resolution approving the use of force to end the Gulf crisis, French Prime Minister Michel Rocard said Saturday, informed sources said.

The sources said the French prime minister was addressing a group of 15 members of the French National Assembly.

"Mr. Rocard said the role of the French troops sent to join the multinational force in the Gulf is limited to enforcing the international sanctions against Iraq," one of the sources told the Jordan Times.

Earlier reports said the speaker of the French National Assembly had demanded that the government clarify Paris' position towards the Gulf crisis.

The 15 parliament members who met with Rocard represent all parties in the assembly, according to the sources.

France, which had signalled an independent approach to the Gulf crisis in the initial days after Iraq invaded Kuwait Aug. 2, reacted dramatically to reports of an Iraqi intrusion into the French embassy in Kuwait and sent 4,000 troops and armour to Saudi Arabia to join the multinational force. Earlier, the French involvement was limited to naval forces in the Gulf. Iraq subsequently expressed regret over the embassy intrusion.

French President Francois Mitterrand again signalled a shift in position by becoming the first Western leader to link the Gulf crisis to other conflicts in the Middle East, including the Palestinian and Lebanese problems. In a speech to the United Nations General Assembly, he outlined a four-stage plan for comprehensive peace in the region. The plan was welcomed by Iraq, which said the



Michel Rocard

proposal was positive and could be built upon.

Rocard's position that France will not be a party to a war to end the Gulf crisis follows reports from the United Nations that the United States was trying to push through a Security Council resolution endorsing use of military force against Iraq.

While reports said the resolution was being drafted, Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze said it was too premature to discuss the idea.

In other developments related to the Gulf crisis:

U.S. 'consultations'
President George Bush has held private discussions with members of Congress about all Gulf policy options, including the possible use of military force, a spokesman said Friday.

"We've had extensive consultations with the Congress on every aspect of the 'Persian Gulf' situation. We have had meetings after meeting and talk after talk... but there have been no meetings that were called just to discuss the use of force," White House Press Secretary Martin Fitzwater said.

Fitzwater was responding to questions about a report that Bush had

initiated discussions with lawmakers on the possible use of force to meet in advance any congressional objections that might arise if he sends U.S. troops into battle in the Gulf.

The Washington Post newspaper said Friday that Bush had several private meetings with key members of Congress since Sept. 15.

It quoted unidentified congressional sources as saying the president or his aides had sketched out a number of possible scenarios for future developments in the Gulf, including one involving the use of U.S. air power in conjunction with friendly Arab ground troops to regain Kuwait.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker called on Iraq to destroy Iraq's chemical and biological weapons on mass destruction.

"In burying the cold war deep in the sands of Arabia, we have stepped into a new era of international politics," Baker said at a U.N. ceremony unveiling a Soviet sculpture dedicated to the 1987 INF agreement on medium-range missiles.

"And so I call upon [Iraq] to join the civilised world and to destroy (its) chemical and biological weapons and research and production facilities for weapons of mass destruction," he said.

Baker and Shevardnadze attended a ceremony in the U.N. garden after a four-hour meeting at the U.N. mission in which they wrapped up final details of a treaty to cut non-nuclear arms in Europe.

The commander of the British forces in the Gulf, Lieutenant-General Sir Peter de la Billiere, hinted Friday that war in the Gulf was likely.

"I would suggest you keep an eye on your newspapers between November and Christmas or January there are bound to be some form of serious developments in that time."

Italy's ambassador in Kuwait has been forced to leave his embassy, five weeks after water and electricity supplies were cut off by Iraqi troops, the Foreign Ministry said Saturday.

(Continued on page 5)

Jordan believes civilian was shot by Israeli army

AMMAN (R) — A Jordanian official said Saturday a Jordanian soldier shot dead a Jordanian civilian who crossed the demarcation line. On Aug. 18 they clashed with two Jordanian soldiers trying to cross into Israel, killing one and wounding and capturing the second.

A Jordanian security source said that several times in recent months young, religiously-motivated conscripts had tried to cross the demarcation line but had been caught by Jordanian forces.

In a rare crossing the other way, two Israeli teenagers walked 27 kilometres into Jordan to visit the ancient city of Petra in September. They were arrested but freed after mediation by Italian Prime Minister Giulio Andreotti.

They found the man, armed with a knife, after a three-hour search and killed him. There

were no Israeli casualties, the radio said.

It was the second time this year Israeli forces had shot dead a Jordanian who crossed the demarcation line. On Aug. 18 they clashed with two Jordanian soldiers trying to cross into Israel, killing one and wounding and capturing the second.

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Foreigners flee Rwanda

NAIROBI (Agencies) — Foreigners began fleeing Rwanda's capital by the hundreds Saturday as fighting raged in the countryside between government troops and refugees who invaded from Uganda.

No further fighting was reported in Kigali, where French Foreign Legionnaires and Belgian paratroopers secured their embassies, parts of the city, the airport and its access highway.

But fierce clashes were reported in the northern part of the country and 500 soldiers from neighbouring Zaire arrived in Kigali to reinforce the 5,000-strong Rwandan army.

An Air France Boeing 747 returned 232 people to Paris early Saturday and another Air France plane and a jet chartered from Germany's Lufthansa airline were expected to pick up about 500 more later in the day.

The Soviet news agency TASS said measures were being taken to "ensure the safety and the evacuation of the families of Soviet personnel." It gave no further details and it was not known how many people were involved.

The German embassy in Nairobi said the Lufthansa plane would bring mostly wives and children of German development aid workers out of Kigali.

In Brussels, the Belgian government said it was withdrawing its offer to place four transport planes at the disposal of its allies in the Gulf because of the fighting in Rwanda.

Belgium has sent 500 paratroopers to the tiny Central African nation to protect its 1,630 citizens living in the former Belgian protectorate.

Although Kigali appeared calm, the British Broadcasting Corporation's (BBC) African service broadcast a message from the Foreign Office urging British citizens to stay indoors.

A dusk-to-dawn curfew announced Tuesday was extended to 24 hours and a Belgian reporter in Kigali said some people confined to their homes were running short of food.

The exodus of foreigners was touched off by fighting in and around the capital early Friday.

(Continued on page 5)

Security Council starts debate on occupied lands

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — The U.N. Security Council Friday began a debate on the Israeli-occupied territories initiated by Arab states in an effort to get council members to take as much action on the Palestinian issue as on Iraq's invasion of Kuwait.

A working paper circulated by Arab states would have U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar establish a special monitoring group and submit periodic reports on ways to ensure the safety and protection of Palestinian civilians under Israeli occupation.

However, the United States has twice this year vetoed similar resolutions condemning Israel's actions in the occupied territories.

"On the Middle East the Un-

ited Nations does not yet speak with one voice," Chinese Ambassador Li Daoyu told Reuters before the session began.

Faron Kaddoumi, foreign affairs spokesman for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), told the council that unless the question of Palestine was addressed in a "serious and responsible fashion" there would never be a solution in the Middle East region.

Yemeni Ambassador Abdalla Saleh Al Ashtal predicted that because of the measures taken against Iraq for its invasion of Kuwait, the body would have to deal with the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Such action might include imposing sanctions on Israel for disobeying previous resolutions demanding it withdraw from the

West Bank and Gaza Strip, he said.

"Or is there a double standard?" he asked, adding that a solution to the Gulf crisis had to be linked to a solution of the Palestinian problem.

Yemen first asked for the meeting on Sept. 28 shortly after Israel demolished more than 30 shops and houses in the Gaza Strip refugee camp of Bureij.

In rebuttal, Israeli Ambassador Johanen Bein said that Israel "has as much to do with the maelstrom in the Gulf as the hot weather in Kuwait City."

Three Arabs suspected of assisting the Israeli authorities were killed in the last two days in the occupied territories by their fellow Palestinians, Arab and Israeli reports said Saturday.

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Waite, other Western hostages to be freed soon, Beirut paper says

BEIRUT (AP) — Missing Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite will "top" an undisclosed number of Western hostages to be released in Lebanon next week, Lebanon's leading newspaper said Saturday.

The prestigious Al Nahar attributed the front page report to unnamed informed sources.

The report said Iranian Foreign Minister Ali Akbar Velayati was to visit the Syrian capital of Damascus "in the next two days for consultations with the Syrian command" of President Hafez Al Assad.

Velayati, the sources said, "might travel to Beirut for talks with President Elias Hrawi and other Lebanese officials."

Syria, with 40,000 peacekeeping troops deployed in Lebanon since 1976, is the main power broker in Lebanon.

Iran is the main backer of Hizbollah (Party of God), the umbrella for underground factions holding most of the 13 Western captives missing in Lebanon, including four Britons.

"The release of a number of foreign hostages held in Lebanon, topped by Anglican Church envoy Terry Waite, is possible next week," Al Nahar quoted the informed sources as saying. It did not elaborate.

Al Nahar has proven reliable in the past in its reports on the hostages' issue was part of the paper's main story which also

said Velayati was to work out with Syrian and Lebanese leaders a settlement to the three-year-old bloody power struggle between Hizbollah and the mainstream Shi'ite Amal militia which has killed more than 1,000 people.

Hussein Musawi, the Shi'ite mentor of some hostage-holding factions, said Sept. 29 that the four British hostages would benefit from the recently restored diplomatic ties between Britain and Tehran.

However, Musawi said the six American captives were not expected to be released soon due to the American military deployment in the Gulf region.

A flurry of reports about the possible release of British hostages has followed the restoration of British-Iranian ties after a rupture of 18 months over British author Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses."

"Improving relations and the new British conduct towards Iran would serve British interests in general, including the British hostages," said Musawi, whose Islamic Amal movement is part of the Hizbollah umbrella.

Waite, 51, a personal emissary of Archbishop of Canterbury Robert Runcie, disappeared Jan. 20, 1987, after leaving his hotel in west Beirut for a meeting with Islamic Jihad, the underground faction believed to hold American hostages Terry Anderson and Thomas Sutherland.

No group has claimed Waite's abduction, but former Irish hos-

tage Brian Keenan, released in August, said he was held with the Anglican envoy for a while in the same house.

Anderson, chief Middle East correspondent for the Associated Press, is the longest-held among the 13 Western captives in Lebanon, Anderson, 42, of Lorain, Ohio, was kidnapped March 16, 1985.

In addition to Waite, the British captives are journalist John McCarthy, World War II flier Jack Mann and writer Alec Collett.

McCarthy, 33, of Barnet, North London, was kidnapped April 17, 1986, as he drove to Beirut airport to catch a flight to London.

Mann, 76, was kidnapped in Beirut May 12, 1989. Collett, a New York-based writer on assignment in Lebanon for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency, was kidnapped March 25, 1985.

The Revolutionary Organisation of Socialist Muslims claimed April 23, 1986 it hanged Collett in retaliation for Britain's support of the U.S. air raids on Libya earlier that month.

The group released a videotape purportedly showing Collett, then 63, dangling from a scaffold. No body has been found, but British officials believe Collett is dead.

The Western captives held mainly by pro-Iranian factions in Lebanon also include two West Germans and an Italian.

Bashir rejects Western pressure

NEW YORK (Agencies) — Sudan's military ruler says he has no intention of changing his government's handling of humanitarian aid and will not establish a multi-party political system in his country.

Omar Hassan Al Bashir, in an interview published Friday in the New York Times, accused Western governments of "pressuring" his administration and claimed some relief groups were aiding rebel forces in southern Sudan.

"We are not following the kind of line the Western governments desire," Bashir was quoted as saying. "These governments want us to follow the Western model. They would like us to be part of the multi-party system of government."

The general created an Islamic-fundamentalist government when he seized power in a coup 15 months ago.

The United States and other Western governments have criticized him for banning opposition parties, jailing dissidents and blocking food bound for the hungry in rebel-held areas.

In the interview, the Sudanese leader played down the threat of famine in the country's south and denied that his government had prevented food shipments.

Bashir also accused some humanitarian groups of aiding the rebels. "Many church organisations contribute arms and assistance" to the guerrillas, he was quoted as saying.

Earlier this week, the U.N. Children's Fund (UNICEF) said an advancing drought in Sudan could kill up to a million people, and donor countries have not responded to calls by relief agencies for help.

Diplomats said privately that distaste for Sudan's military junta is the major reason that donations have dried up.

"I think we have the makings of a major humanitarian disaster, a bombshell disaster, that hasn't caught the attention of the world," said Richard Reid, UNICEF's regional director for the Middle East and North Africa.

Four million to five million southerners are threatened by the drought, which is worse than the one that killed over 250,000 in 1988, Reid said.

The United Nations said late Friday the Sudanese government would immediately lift a ban on U.N. food relief flights to the south.

Earlier this week, Bashir held discussions with U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar in which relief operations in the Sudan figured prominently.

At a follow-up meeting on Friday between Sudanese delegates and the under-secretary general for special political questions, a Sudanese minister announced that the ban on U.N. food flights would be lifted immediately.

"The minister said that the Sudanese government was anxious to ensure that humanitarian aid reached all of the affected population," the U.N. statement quoted the minister as saying.

Warning of a deepening food crisis in the country, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Thursday appealed to international donors to pledge more aid.

The United States denied reports Friday that it has cut off famine aid to Sudan, but said it will not send any more wheat to the country until relief supplies can be moved to hungry people.

"What we have done is stop a shipment of wheat which was intended for commercial distribution," State Department spokesman Richard Boucher said.

Top Soviet general urges political solution in Gulf

WASHINGTON (R) — The Soviet Union's top military officer has said that Moscow was "in lock-step" with U.S. and Western efforts to end Iraq's occupation of Kuwait, but he warned that a political solution must be found to the Gulf crisis.

"I want to stress: You've got to find a political settlement and not use military force," said General Mikhail Moiseyev, winding up a six-day U.S. visit in which he toured military bases and met hundreds of Americans.

Moiseyev, chief of the Soviet general staff, also told an unusual Pentagon press conference that the Soviet Union will withdraw 206 military technicians from Iraq as fast as it can as their contracts expire on Soviet-made weapons.

"I really exclude the possibility that (Iraqi President) Saddam Hussein would take on and fight the rest of the world," the 51-year-old general said in the joint news conference with U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Chairman General Colin Powell.

"We (the Soviet Union and the United States) are marching shoulder-to-shoulder, (in) lock step to condemn the actions of Iraq in Kuwait," Moiseyev told reporters.

Moscow has several warships in

the Gulf but has sent no troops to the region to join a major buildup of Western and other military forces following Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

The U.S. visit by Moiseyev was another in a growing sign of warming military détente between the superpowers and the two generals said they agreed to further military exchanges over the next two years.

Moiseyev noted that Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and U.S. President George Bush had condemned Iraq during their recent Helsinki summit meeting.

He suggested that U.S. and Soviet military officials might be used to help increase political pressure against Iraq, but did not say how that might be done.

Moiseyev declined to assess the military ability of Iraqi forces in Kuwait, but said that the Soviet Union now had 206 military technicians in Iraq as part of previous Soviet-Iraqi arms deals.

He said that 77 of them would finish their obligations shortly and would be withdrawn and that the remainder would be withdrawn as their contracts expired. "I don't think these people will effect in any way events in that area," Moiseyev said.

Egypt: 30 suspected 'saboteurs' arrested

CAIRO (AP) — Egypt's leading state-owned newspaper said Saturday that a total of 30 suspected saboteurs sent by Iraq have been arrested.

The report in the newspaper Al Ahram followed the disclosure by a security official Friday that another 16 people — 15 Iraqis and a Palestinian — had been detained for illegal entry into the country.

Al Ahram said the sabotage suspects, 23 Palestinians and seven Iraqis, were arrested for entering Egypt on alleged sabotage missions masterminded by Iraq.

It said four of the arrested Palestinians were members of Abu Nidal organisation who had a police record in Egypt.

The four were deported from the country three years ago but were able to sneak in recently with forged passports from an Egyptian port, posing as tourists, the newspaper said.

Abu Nidal, whose real name is Sabri Al Banna, heads a hardline faction known as the Fateh-Revolutionary Council. A splinter of the Palestine Liberation Organisation's (PLO) mainstream Fateh group, Abu-Nidal's faction had its headquarters in Libya for some time.

Recent reports said he has moved his base to Baghdad. Maps pinpointing targets of attacks were found in the possession of the suspected saboteurs, Al Ahram said.

It quoted Nabil Osman, an assistant to the interior minister in charge of internal security, that information reaching his office showed that potential targets of sabotage included tourist attractions like the Pyramids area, museums and hotels, public means of transport and crowded areas like Cairo's main squares.

The aim of the sabotage missions was to destabilise Egypt, the newspaper said.

Al Ahram said the seven Iraqi sabotage suspects are members of the ruling Iraqi Baath Party. It did not give the names of the suspects.

In addition to their sabotage missions, the newspaper said, the Iraqis tried to establish "terrorist" cells in Egypt.

President Hosni Mubarak said in a speech on Thursday that Iraq has sent saboteurs to Egypt, some of whom had been caught. He said they had planned to bomb government offices and public transportation.

Egypt has strongly condemned Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait and has sent 14,000 soldiers to Saudi Arabia to join an international force against Iraq.

Since the invasion, Cairo has tightened entry restrictions on citizens from Iraq and other countries that showed sympathy for its actions.

On Friday, a security official said that a Palestinian man and 15 Iraqis, among them two women and two defecting soldiers, were arrested for attempting to enter Egypt with false documents.

The official, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said the 16 detainees were caught during the past four to five days at Cairo international airport. He said they carried fake Egyptian and Kuwaiti passports.

He did not specify where they came from.

Interior Minister Abdul Halim Musa said in a statement published Wednesday that security authorities had arrested suspected Arab saboteurs from three countries, which he did not name.

But Al Ahram's report Saturday mentioned only Palestinians and Iraqis.

On Tuesday, security officials said that seven Iraqis had been caught trying to sneak into Egypt over the preceding two weeks. Six of them were draft dodgers who arrived from Jordan, and the seventh a military conscript who allegedly deserted his unit in Kuwait and flew to Cairo via Saudi Arabia.

It was not clear whether the 16 arrests disclosed Friday by the security official included the seven reported detained earlier.

Kabul complains Pakistan still supporting rebels

UNITED NATIONS (R) — Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil has said that neighbouring Pakistan was stepping up its support for rebels and that the United States should not let Pakistan determine its policies.

In a speech to the General Assembly Friday, Wakil appealed for an international conference to work out ways of ending Afghanistan's decade-long suffering.

He said rebels armed and based in Pakistan continued to fire heavy weapons into Afghanistan.

"In fact, by spreading new types of mass annihilation weapons, such as cluster rockets, it (Pakistan) has given new dimension and quality to the war," Wakil said.

He said that from January to September this year a total of 1,662 rockets had been fired on Kabul alone killing hundreds. Many homes had been destroyed and there had been widespread destruction of mosques and hospitals. Even refugees returning under U.N. auspices were targets.

Wakil said the United States, which with the Soviet Union is a guarantor of a 1989 peace settlement, should not let its ally Pakistan stand in the way of ending the violence in Afghanistan and "postpone a solution of the situation" because of Islamabad's political designs.

The two superpowers are currently holding talks on a solution to the country's civil war.

Accusing Pakistan of violating every agreement it had signed on Afghanistan, Wakil said he had written U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar 1,545 notes with 11,657 cases of violations.

"We do not know how many more notes are required... and how many more Afghans shall die," he said, adding that the situation had worsened since Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto was dismissed from office.

Pakistan's delegate rejected Wakil's charges as fabrications and distortions, saying that the Kabul government had no legitimacy among the Afghan people.

The Afghan government has proposed a peace plan that included free elections under U.N. auspices but rebel groups have rejected any negotiations as long as the Soviet-backed government of President Najibullah remains in power.

Deputy Foreign Minister Daoud Kavian, also at the news conference, said Pakistan's intervention was responsible for the rebels intensifying rocket attacks on Kabul and other cities.

One difficulty in negotiating a solution is the lack of unity among the many rebel groups in Afghanistan and several neighbouring nations.

Wakil said his government had contacted 604 opposition groups and that close to 90,000 men had stopped fighting.

Meanwhile, the Afghan government acknowledged rebels had captured the provincial capital of Tarin Kot in central Afghanistan.

More than 24 hours after the Mujahedeen said they had overrun the small provincial capital in Uruzgan province, General Nabi Azimi, senior deputy defence minister, said in Kabul the 500-man garrison in the city had fallen.

Military experts said this was the first time rebels had wrested control of a provincial town or city from the government since the Soviet troop withdrawal from Afghanistan in February, 1989.

"Our troops had staunchly defended the city for 20 months after the Soviet military withdrawal from Afghanistan," Azimi told a news conference.

"We lost the provincial capital because of the betrayal of the governor and his close associates, as well as because of the interference by the Pakistan military, who have been supplying new weapons to the armed extremists in a bid to capture one of the cities inside Afghanistan," he said.

Azimi looked bitter as he accused the Uruzgan governor of treachery.

The government would try soon to recapture the provincial capital, he said.

Afghan air force planes have been seen flying missions in the direction of Tarin Kot and there are reports of heavy bombing of the city.

"It's bound to be a significant morale-booster for the rebels," one diplomat said.

The Kabul government bitterly attacked Pakistan which it said had given the Mujahedeen a two-month deadline to capture at least one provincial capital or lose its support as a supplier of arms and money.

Deputy Foreign Minister Daoud Kavian, also at the news conference, said Pakistan's intervention was responsible for the rebels intensifying rocket attacks on Kabul and other cities.

Red Army warns Japan against involvement in Gulf

BEIRUT (AP) — A statement purportedly from the Japanese Red Army group has warned Tokyo against committing troops to a U.S.-led military buildup against Iraq in the Gulf.

The statement, type-written in English, urged Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu to also abandon plans to help finance foreign forces which deployed in the Gulf after Iraq's Aug. 2 invasion of Kuwait.

There was no way to authenticate the three-paragraph statement, delivered anonymously to the offices of a western news agency in west Beirut.

It warned that Japanese military involvement "will cause serious consequences on (the) hostage issue," apparently alluding to 350 Japanese still held in Iraq and Kuwait.

Like other foreigners, especially the westerners, Japanese nationals have been banned from travelling out and some are being held as detainees at potential military targets in Iraq and Kuwait.

The "Arab people will consider Japanese imperialist (an) enemy

of Arab people," the statement said.

"We demand (the) Japanese government to halt any attempt for sending self-defence forces overseas."

Otherwise, the statement added, Japan would be paving the way for a revival of "militarism who invaded Asian-Pacific region and killed tens of millions of people," referring to the U.S. power that defeated Japan in 1945 during World War II.

"We demand (the) Japanese government to halt all her support for U.S. forces. Japanese imperialism supports U.S. forces in (the) Middle East materially," it said.

Japan has not sent troops to the Gulf, but has pledged to help finance forces there. It has backed United Nations resolutions ordering a tight embargo of Iraq. It also has allocated \$2 billion to help shore up the economies of Jordan, Turkey and Egypt — the worst-hit financially by the Gulf crisis.

The statement was issued as Kaifu was on a tour of Turkey, Jordan and Saudi Arabia.

Qadhafi welcomes German unity

ROME (AP) — Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi has told German leaders he hopes the unification of Germany will lead to the "removal" of the state of Israel, official Libyan media have reported.

"The division of Germany, the building of the horrific Berlin Wall and the establishment of the Jewish state over the land of Palestine were arrangements that must be finished together as they were established together for the same excuses," Qadhafi told German Chancellor Helmut Kohl in a letter, the Libyan news agency Jana reported.

"Hope has become big (for) the removal of the Jewish state and the establishment of a democratic Palestinian state after the ending of the division of Germany and the arrangements that followed it," the English-language Jana dispatch quoted Qadhafi as saying.

He did not elaborate. Germany was divided into military zones after World War II by the victorious powers, and the Soviet zone became East Germany. Israel was created in 1948 under a United Nations plan to divide Palestine into an Arab and Jewish state.

The Libyan leader added that he was "joyed personally and especially more than any other official in the world by the German Unity."

"The unity of your country represents a model and an incentive for the fragmented Arab Nation," he said.

Iraq has capability for high-explosive weapon — Pentagon

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Iraq has the technical capability to produce a high-explosive conventional bomb or missile warhead with a potentially devastating blast, the U.S. Defence Department said Friday.

But defence officials said the United States was not sure whether Baghdad had stockpiled such arms, and they denied a published report that blast could be equivalent to a small tactical nuclear explosion over an area several kilometres wide.

The statements came in reaction to a Los Angeles Times newspaper report Friday that Iraq had obtained technology already available in the United States and other countries to build "fuel-air explosives" (FAE), which disperse a gas such as propane and quickly ignite it.

"They have the technology to build these weapons," said Lieutenant Colonel Rick Oborn, a Pentagon spokesman.

"But the blast effect is measured in feet, not miles. It doesn't come anywhere near a mile (1.6 km)," added Air Force Captain Sam Grizzle, another Pentagon spokesman.

The Pentagon confirmed the Times report that Iraq had displayed one of three types of FAE's which it claimed to have at an arms show in Baghdad last year.

The Times also reported that even an inefficient FAE had twice the blast of a comparable size normal explosive bomb or warhead.

Oborn cautioned that optimum conditions — no wind, just the

right temperature and perfect timing on the explosion release gas and subsequent ignition blast — were needed to create a major FAE shock wave.

U.S. Defence officials said FAE technology has been around for some time, that the United States used FAE weapons in Vietnam and still has some FAE bombs.

Defence experts have said that the technology for producing controlled gas explosions is widely available.

The Times reported that the weapons were also believed to be in arsenals of the Soviet Union, Israel, China, France, Germany and Spain and might be possessed by Third World countries other than Iraq.

U.S. defence officials, who asked not to be identified, said they doubted whether Iraq had mounted FAE warheads on its Soviet-built Scud or other missiles. But experts told the Times that FAE warheads could make up for the inaccuracy of such missiles if Iraq wanted to use them on Saudi oil facilities.

Five senators are calling for an investigation into whether a German company passed along to Iraq the FAE technology.

The senators are concerned that the company, Messerschmitt-Boelkow-Blohm, may have given away the formulas needed to make FAEs.

The weapons are most effective against troops in an open area, such as the Saudi desert. They do not work well against hardened targets such as fortifications.

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran

15:40 Programme review

15:45 Children programme

17:10 Football

18:00 News summary

18:10 Local programme

19:50 Programme review

20:00 News in Arabic

20:30 Arabic series

21:30 Programme review

21:45 Local programme

23:00 News summary in Arabic

PROGRAMME TWO

17:55 Cartoons

18:10 Short film

19:00 News in French

19:15 Classical music

19:30 News in Hebrew

19:45 Varieties programme

20:00 News in Arabic

21:10 Documentary: "The Four Horsemen"

22:00 News in English

22:30 Thin Air

CHURCHES

St. Mary of Nazareth Church Swetish, Tel. 810740

Assemblies of God Church, Tel. 637785

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 637440

De la Salle Church Tel. 661757

Terranova Church Tel. 622366

Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541

Anglican Church Tel. 625383, Tel. 771571

Armenian Orthodox Church Tel. 775261

St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751

Armenian International Church Tel. 685326

Evangelical Lutheran Church Tel. 811295

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints Tel. 815817 and 654932

WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will remain hot and dusty and winds will be westerly moderate. In Aqaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm.

USEFUL NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

AMMAN:

Dr. Adnan Zaghoul 898140

Dr. Fayez Jallouji 776119

Dr. Ahmad Al Dagh 623029

Dr. Tawfiq Qab'In 623029

Firdous pharmacy 778336

Nairookh pharmacy 657055

Al Salam pharmacy 636730

Yacoub pharmacy 644945

Shmiciari pharmacy 637660

BRID:

Dr. Ziad Al A'raj (—)

Al Shara'a pharmacy (985238)

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Department 661111

Civil Defence Immediate 630341

Rescue Police 199

Fire Brigade 829229

Blood Bank 775121

Highway Police 343402

Traffic Police 896390

Public Security Department 630321

Hotel Complaints 658000

Price Complaints 661776

Water and Sewerage 897467

Complaints 787111

Telephone Information (directory assistance) 121

Overseas Calls 010230

Central Amman Telephone 623101

Abdali Telephone Repairs 661101

Jordan Television 731111

Radio Jordan 774111

Water Authority 680100

Jordan Electricity Authority 815615

Electric Power

HOSPITALS

AMMAN:

Hussein Medical Centre 813813/32

Khalid Maternity, J. Ann 642816

Abdali Maternity, J. Ann 642412

Jabal Amman Maternity 642362

Malwas, J. Amman 636140

Palestine, Shmeisani 6641714

Shmeisani Hospital 843845

Al-Munster Hospital 6627279

The Islamic, Abdali 661646

Italian, Al-Muhajra 771013

Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh 77511126

Amry, Marfa 89161175

Queen Alia Hospital 6624020

AMAL 674155

Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323

Zarqa National Hospital (09)991071

Ibn Sina Hospital (09)98732

IRBID:

Princess Basma Hospital (02)725555

Greek Catholic Hospital (02)727775

Ibn Al Nafies Hospital (02)747100

AQABA:

Princess Haya Hospital (03)314111

FOR THE TRAVELLER

QUEEN ALIA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Royal Jordanian (RJ) information department at the Queen Alia International Airport. Tel. (09)5320-5, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS

Royal Jordanian (RJ) Flights (Terminal 1)

09:45 Doha (RJ)

10:00

Shbeilat asks for arming people, preparing for defence

By Sana Atiyeh
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Lower House of Parliament member Laith Shbeilat Saturday appealed to the government to adopt measures to arm Jordanian citizens in order to prepare them to counter any aggression against Jordan.

Speaking at a press conference in his office, Shbeilat, an independent Islamist, said he presented a memorandum last week to Prime Minister Mudar Badran and members of the House to adopt what he described as a "nationalist Islamist" initiative to arm the people and to establish a "people's resistance."

Shbeilat, who won a seat in the House by-elections in 1984 and again last November, called on the prime minister to "turn Jordan into a jungle of weapons" to be in harmony with the Arab world, where six million people — one third of the population — carry arms.

Shbeilat intends to run for the Lower House speakership on Nov. 17 when Parliament is due to reconvene its regular session. The city for his independent Islamist candidate in last November's elections which eventually won him votes from both the Islamist and secular groups. He describes himself as "centrist" between the Muslim Brotherhood and leftist organisations, both inside and outside Parliament.

The deputy stated in his memo to the prime minister that one million of the 3.5 million Jordanians must be allowed to carry weapons and "organise in a wide-scale popular resistance, complementing the People's Army and supporting our armed forces."

Since the U.S.-led Western coalition began in Saudi Arabia and the Gulf, the Jordanian population had expressed at pro-Iraq rallies and demonstrations the desire for being allowed to carry arms to defend Jordan and Iraq should a Western or Israeli aggression occur.

Shbeilat indicated in his memo to Badran that if the prime minister did not act on this proposal, the Lower House may have to

force the government out of office with a vote of no confidence.

The deputy said that consecutive Jordanian governments had made a mistake by keeping the people away from arms and "by basing our security policies on American promises that suddenly fell apart as many expected."

Shbeilat, who intends to create a "nationalist Islamist" party which may include other independent and "tolerant and spiritualist" Islamists, such as Deputy Yacoub Karrash, told reporters he was still waiting for a response from the government in reply to his memo.

The outspoken deputy told the prime minister that if the people were armed, Israel would think twice before invading the country because "the real ally of the (Jordanian) army is the people and a properly-organised popular resistance."

"More than two months have passed since the Gulf crisis began, and our people remain very distant from preparedness in case of war," he said. "The battlefield does not end in Iraq, but will stretch to Palestine and Jordan."

Iraq is seriously threatened from the Western end of its borders (with Jordan) because the Americans and the Israelis are planning a Zionist invasion against Jordan to head towards the Western border of Iraq," Shbeilat said in his memo, which he read out to journalists.

He explained that arming the people did not necessarily mean having weapons in every home, but to have weapons available in security centres in every neighbourhood and as close as a few hundred metres from the homes.

In a separate memo to the 80 members of the Lower House, Shbeilat called on deputies to issue their own decisions and orders in the name of the people who voted for them.

"Since the beginning of the crisis the people have not been put in a state of preparedness for a war that is inevitable. This is to be blamed not only on the government, but we are to blame even more before our people and God," Shbeilat told Parliament members in his memo.

Prime Minister warns civil servants who shirk duty

AMMAN (J.T.) — Numerous

government department employees and civil servants have been reported to be disregarding official office hours and failing to be on duty during hours fixed by each ministry, and if this trend continues, strict penalties will have to be imposed on those shirking duty, according to Prime Minister Mudar Badran.

In an official communique he issued Saturday the prime minister said: "I have been informed that many employees of different ministries and public organisations are in the habit of disregarding office hours. Abiding by the fixed office hours from the start to the end reflects a civilised image about Jordan and a sense

of responsibility on the part of employees, especially under the present difficult circumstances."

He said that all government employees were called on to abide by the official office hours and he said any "laxity will be strictly dealt with in accordance with the civil service commission laws."

In another official communique, the prime minister said that government vehicles should be strictly used for official government business only.

The prime minister referred in his communique to other communiques, issued earlier this month and in the past two years, in which he urged heads of gov-

ernment departments to take extra care in directing the use of government-owned vehicles with the purpose of minimising the consumption of fuel.

He said that all heads of departments were to see to it that special arrangements were made to reduce the use of means of transport at their disposal to carry out several official tasks to a limited number of cars and to keep strict control over the use of fuel for vehicles so as to cut down on fuel consumption.

The communique requested various departments to submit to the prime minister's office regular and periodical reports about following up these directives.



KING RECEIVES PAKISTANI CHIEF OF STAFF: His Majesty King Hussein Saturday received at the Royal Court Pakistani Chief of Staff Iftikhar Sirohi and an accompanying delegation.

The meeting was attended by Armed Forces Chief of Staff General Fathi Abu Taleb and the Pakistani Ambassador to Jordan, Sirohi and the accompanying delegation were also received by Abu Taleb at the headquarters of the armed forces. Abu Taleb and Sirohi discussed the situation in the region, scopes of cooperation between Jordan and Pakistan and issues of common interest. The meeting was attended by

several of the chief of staff's assistants, the commander of the Royal Air Force, the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attaché in Amman. Sirohi and the accompanying delegation arrived Saturday morning on a several-day official visit to Jordan during which they will meet with Jordanian officials and visit military and touristic sites in the Kingdom. The Pakistani delegation was received at the airport upon arrival by Abu Taleb, the deputy chief of staff for administrative affairs, the inspector general, the Pakistani ambassador and the Pakistani military attaché.

Treatment of cancer in Jordan — a long way to go

By Joumana Halasa
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — Jordan, which leads the Arab World in advanced medicine — including open heart surgery and in vitro fertilisation — strangely lags behind in the field of cancer treatment. It is high time that a national effort were undertaken to bring more focus on treating cancer patients in the country, forestalling what has become perennial problems, including personal and professional rivalry, which are blamed for the failure of previous moves.

This is the opinion of doctors, officials and social workers alike.

"It is more of a combination of the decades-old stigma attached to cancer," said a social worker. "People in this part of the world are not willing to discuss cancer as freely as they would discuss any other disease simply because the widely-shared belief is that 'if you have cancer then you are dead sooner than later'; so, few people go to local doctors. Instead they prefer to travel outside if they can afford to do so."

According to Dr. Abdullah Al Khatib, president of the General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS), a conservative estimate puts at 3,000 the average annual number of cancer patients in Jordan. "Unfortunately, Jordan doesn't have the facilities, equipment and experts to work as a team to treat cancer," said Khatib.

"Indeed there are a few doctors who are really good in treating cancer but they do not have support team or equipment," added Khatib, one of many Jordanians who have been working ardently over the past several years to set up a cancer treatment centre in Amman.

"There is an awareness of the situation among the people of the pressing need to set up a specialised facility to treat cancer in Jordan, but somehow this awareness does not translate into real action," he said.

Khatib lamented the fact that "here people refer to cancer as the end of the human being."

"Why should it be so here while the approach of the advanced countries is so totally realistic and practical to cancer and treatment of the disease?" he asked. "Isn't it now well known that cancer is not incurable?"

While conceding that such awareness is a long-term process, Dr. Khatib also argued that Jordan does not have a comprehensive approach to cancer treatment. "For example, one has to go to Al Bashir Hospital for radiotherapy, the

King Hussein Medical Centre for chemotherapy and any hospital for surgery," he said. "But the sad fact is that there are few qualified and experienced doctors who can successfully perform a cancer surgery," he asserted. Leaving malignant tissue could be very dangerous in the long term."

Several doctors agree with this argument. "There is a multitude of surgeons who say they can and have performed successful cancer surgeries, but many patients that I have come across say that they do not have enough trust in Jordanian doctors," said a leading physician who spoke on condition of anonymity.

"It is strange that Jordanian patients, who have no qualms whatsoever in approaching Jordanian doctors for open heart surgeries, balk when it comes to cancer," he commented. "They prefer to travel abroad, but then I also agree that many of them do not want it to be known locally that they are suffering from cancer."

"Then again, the reality is that not everyone can afford to travel abroad for cancer treatment except those few who are lucky enough to be rich and those families which are willing to sacrifice everything they have to raise enough money for treatment outside."

Dr. Khatib, who finds cancer treatment in Jordan as "ridiculous," recounted plans — which are still valid and ongoing — to set up a special cancer treatment facility called Al Amal Cancer Centre.

"The facility will have every service," he said. "From diagnosis to surgery and after treatment to moral, financial and social support for the patient," he said. "Over and above everything else, it will also educate people on the right approach to cancer and that it could be cured if diagnosed in early stages."

Dr. Khatib estimates that it would take JD 8 million to set up the centre and an amount of JD 2 million has already been collected. His Majesty King Hussein was scheduled to lay the foundation stone for the centre in early August. But the Gulf crisis prompted the postponement of the formal launching of the project.

According to a senior doctor at the King Hussein Medical Centre, a good percentage of cancer cases that are reported in Jordan are of children — mostly leukemia and lymphoma — and "it is an area which should be given very serious consideration."

At the same time, cancer treatment is simply beyond the means of the average man in Jordan. In principle, those classified as poor are entitled

to free treatment at government hospitals and military and security personnel are treated at the King Hussein Medical Centre. But, according to Dr. Ghassan Farah, surgeon at the Jordan University Hospital, free treatment for cancer is not feasible because of the sheer costs of the medicine involved; in some cases an injection could cost as much as JD 250.

Dr. Farah is very much in support of the idea of setting up Al Amal Cancer Centre. "A patient could get all forms of treatment under one roof when the centre is set up," he said.

"We do have a good start," he said. "We have doctors, technicians and specialised nurses who only need a professional 'tuning up' to be experts in treating cancer," he said. Dr. Farah strongly argues that "qualification and dedication should be the parameters in choosing the right people for the job."

"What we should have is a team with basic qualifications," he said. "But, more importantly, efficiency, dedication and team spirit should govern the process."

"The quest for reputation and prestige should not be the motivation of anyone to enter the field of medicine," Dr. Farah said.

The typical social approach to cancer in Jordan was very much evident in a few interviews conducted by the Jordan Times. Everyone insisted that they not be identified by name.

A 45-year-old mother of four said that "a very few intimate members of my family know that I am under treatment for cancer."

The woman recalled that it was a Jordanian doctor who advised her to go abroad for further check up and treatment. "I have been facing numerous psychological problems whenever I went to a local hospital for treatment," she said.

Another 37-year-old patient who is not affluent enough to travel outside said she had similar "psychological problems" when she started going to a local doctor for treatment. "Soon I got over them but still I do not want to admit in public that I have cancer," she told the Jordan Times. "I was also advised that I should go abroad, but I cannot afford such trips. So I have settled for local treatment."

A 47-year-old woman who underwent breast-cancer surgery abroad seven years ago said: "Cancer is not the end of life. It can be cured especially if it is discovered in early stages. But my experience is that Jordan is very much behind in the field of cancer treatment."

Crisis averted in transport of evacuees

By Mariam M. Shahin
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Disruption in the process of transporting evacuees within Jordan was avoided this week by cash donations of \$1.5 million from Japan and the United States after Jordan's financial abilities were stretched to the maximum last week, said Mohammad Essaafi, U.N. under secretary-general, coordinator of United Nations Disaster Relief Office (UNDRO) Saturday.

The Geneva-based Essaafi, who is on his second trip to Jordan, said that inland transportation, from the border to the camps and from the camps to the airport, of the 37,542 evacuees who now find themselves in Jordan, costs about \$2 million a week and that Jordan could no longer provide the cash to maintain the necessary transport of the evacuees.

Thus "UNDRO decided last Monday to launch an urgent appeal to donors for cash contributions to support the internal transport of evacuees," Essaafi told a news conference.

As a result of the appeal, the government of Japan decided to donate \$1 million to the transport effort. The U.S. in turn donated an additional \$0.5 million and Essaafi said that he presented Samaleh Hamad, chairman of the evacuees affairs committee, with a cheque for \$1.5 million Friday. He said he expected to present another cheque for \$400,000 from the Canadian government before the end of this week.

Essaafi said that if the departure of the evacuees continued at the present rate all those finding themselves in Jordan now and the 80,000 evacuees expected to enter Jordan within the next week should have left Jordan by the end of October.

"If the present rate of arrivals, and the forecast of arrivals is maintained, and if the departure rate is stepped up, the exercise of evacuation would be over by the end of October," Essaafi told reporters.

At the rate of 8,000 departures per day and if climatic conditions remain as they are, Essaafi said that the situation is

"manageable."

He added that in all matters, except possibly in accelerating the movement of the evacuation, all are doing their best. "But this is conditional upon the present system continuing... if there is a worsening of the situation in Iraq and Kuwait, we may expect an increase in the flow of evacuees, particularly Egyptian nationals of which there are still 1 million in Iraq," Essaafi said.

The under-secretary general said that because the situation was unpredictable all the concerned parties would have to engage in contingency planning.

Of the \$35 million that UN-DRO has mobilised since the beginning of September to relieve the evacuees \$28 million have already been received. The donor list was headed by Japan who pledged to give \$20 million, followed by Sweden \$7 million, Germany \$3 million, Denmark \$2 million, Austria \$1 million, U.S. \$1 million, Italy \$0.5 million and Canada \$0.4 million.

Red Crescent Society to channel aid for Japanese

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordan

National Red Crescent Society (JNRCS) and the Iraqi Red Crescent Society discussed in Amman Saturday arrangements for receiving and distributing medical and food supplies sent by the Japanese Red Cross to Japanese nationals living in Iraq.

Discussions were conducted by terms from both sides led by JNRCS' President Dr. Ahmad Abu Qoura and his Iraqi counterpart Amed Khaled, who also tackled issues related to the accommodation of evacuees from Iraq and Kuwait.

Khaled discussed with Abu Qoura the prospect of setting up a new evacuee camp near the southern Iraqi port of Basra, to reduce the number of evacuees crossing into Jordan.

Meanwhile the Egyptian government voiced appreciation to Jordan for efforts made to alleviate the sufferings of Egyptian evacuees crossing into Jordan from Iraq on their way home.

Egyptian Deputy Minister of Transport Hani Husni met with Samaleh Hamad, head of a government evacuees affairs committee at the Ministry of Interior, to discuss the process of repatriating Egyptian evacuees found in Jordan.

Hamad said that the Egyptian nationals were treated like all other expatriates by the Jordanian authorities which provided all possible care and services to enable them to return home.

The Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) Saturday announced that 16,776 evacuees from Arab and foreign countries left for home through Jordanian airports over the past two days. It said that they boarded 69 unscheduled flights to make the trip home.

The Public Security Department (PSD) said that Thursday and Friday a total of 30,778 evacuees entered Jordanian territory from Iraq and the total number of evacuees leaving the country on the same days had reached 28,445.

HOME NEWS IN BRIEF

Ministry issues rules for patients' transfer

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Health Sunday issued a set of regulations concerning the transfer of patients from government hospitals to the King Hussein Medical Centre. According to regulations, cases that can be transferred from hospitals to the King Hussein Medical Centre include: heart conditions including transplants and implants of pace makers, kidney problems and kidney treatment, cases related to orthopaedics and optics, including lens implants, and complicated cases requiring intensive analysis. The ministry said that as of Oct. 2 directors of government hospitals have been empowered to refer cases of these types to the King Hussein Medical Centre.

WHAT'S GOING ON

The following listings are compiled from monthly bulletins and the daily Arabic press. Readers are advised to verify the listed time and place with the concerned institutions.

EXHIBITIONS

- Open studio and workshop for artist Samia Zura displaying paintings, sculptures and hand-painted fabrics. Location: off 2nd Circle, opposite Rosenthal (9:30-1:30 and 3:30-6:30).
- Archaeological exhibition entitled "Al Lajjun — a Roman Frontier Fort" at the Department of Antiquities' Registration and Research Centre, Jabal Amman.
- Plastic art exhibition by Jordanian artists Maha and Ahmad Al Syoud at the Royal Cultural Centre.
- Plastic art exhibition by four Palestinian artists depicting the suffering of the Palestinian people under Israeli occupation at the Jordan National Gallery for Fine Arts.

Jordan draws up emergency plan for Gulf crisis refugees

AMMAN (R) — Jordan, preparing for any sudden new refugee influxes from Kuwait and Iraq, has drawn up contingency plans to handle 150,000 evacuees, an official said.

"The plan is based on a nightmare that up to 150,000 people could suddenly cross into Jordan if something had happened in the Gulf," he told Reuters.

"There is not enough transport from Iraq to the Jordanian border to take all of them at once so we would expect 30,000 to 40,000, mainly Asians and Egyptians, a day," he said.

Under the scheme a third camp would be set up near Azraq, 85

kilometres northeast of Amman, and the capacity of three camps in a desert no-mans-land between Jordan and Iraq would be increased to 50,000 from around 15,000.

Two well-equipped transit camps, already established near Azraq by the International Committee of the Red Cross and the Jordanian Red Crescent Society can now hold up to 46,000.

Up to 100,000 could be lodged in the area if the existing camps were expanded and a new one installed, the official said.

"Arrangements have also been made to enable up to 20,000 people to be repatriated every

day," he added. The plan was drafted by a government evacuation committee and United Nations and other foreign relief agencies.

Salameh Hamad, head of the committee, said 43,560 people, mainly Sri Lankans and Indians, were stranded in Jordan on Thursday, compared with around 32,000 10 days ago.

He said numbers of new arrivals had increased without a corresponding rise in the rate of repatriation.

Every day about 14,000 evacuees, including up to 4,000 Egyptians, arrive and up to 10,000 depart.

Syrian mediation helps lift Saudi ban on Jordanian trucks

Jordanian produce to be sold in Gulf markets again

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanian crops are once again finding their way to the Gulf countries via Saudi Arabia now that Riyadh has lifted a ban on Jordanian lorries and refrigerator trucks crossing its territory, heading towards Gulf states.

However no Jordanian trucks are allowed to take crops or other Jordanian products for sale to Saudi cities and contacts are underway to try to reach agreement with Saudi Arabia on all matters related to transit operations.

A government statement Thursday said that Syria had mediated with Saudi Arabia to allow Jordanian trucks to pass through its territory on their way

to Gulf states, and Saudi Arabia agreed provided no Jordanian products are sold in its territory.

Saudi Arabia had stopped all Jordanian trucks from crossing its territory on Tuesday and in reprisal Jordan prevented all trucks from Syria, Turkey and other countries from crossing Jordanian territory on their way to Saudi Arabian markets, prompting Syria to mediate to lift a ban on Jordanian trucks in transit through Saudi Arabian territory.

According to the government statement Thursday, Prime Minister Mudar Badran and his Syrian counterpart Mahmoud Al Zoubi were involved in contacts over the issue, paving the way for the lifting of the ban.

But a report in the local press

Saturday said that Jordanian trucks were finding difficulty crossing into Turkey.

The paper quoted Ministry of Transport Secretary-General Mohammad Smadi as saying that Jordan was holding contacts Saturday with the Turkish government to settle all outstanding issues related to transit operations conducted by Turkish or Jordanian trucks through Turkey or other countries.

Fahd Al Azab, director of state-run Jordan Agricultural Marketing Company, said farm products prices slumped as a result of a ban imposed by Saudi Arabia on Jordanian products since Riyadh was the major importer of Jordanian agricultural products.

ANNOUNCING
AN
EXHIBITION
of fine handicrafts

Bani Hamida
RUGS - QUILTS

As a courtesy of the Sons of Sa'ad Abu Jaber
AT THE ABU JABER ESTATE
(adjacent to KAN ZAMAN)
12-19 October 1990
10 a.m. - 9 p.m.

A **Save the Children Project**
Funded by USAID
In cooperation with Noor Al Hussein Foundation

By Dr. Fahed Fanek

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published in English by the Jordan Press Foundation
 Published 1975
 جريدة الجordanية المستقلة تصدر بالانجليزية عن المؤسسة الصحفية الاردنية

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Steps to reconsider

SAUDI ARABIA and Turkey are putting some formidable obstacles in the way of some 12,000 Jordanian trucks and are in league to prevent them from doing their trade. When one speaks of 12,000 trucks, one must multiply that number by five to get the full picture of the impact of the damage that is being done to Jordanians. The two countries are in effect trying to strangle Jordan in a rather coordinated way that appears to have been orchestrated and directed somewhere else. But Jordan still has some cards to play in this nasty game. It could reciprocate the treatment by refusing admission to any land transport heading to or from these two countries till they begin to treat Jordan fairly again. Riyadh's hampering of Jordanian trucks crossing into Saudi territory came in the wake of its decision to halt oil shipment to Jordan through the Tapline and the expulsion of our diplomats from Saudi Arabia. There is only one way to interpret this string of economic and diplomatic measures and that is to penalise Jordan for painstakingly trying to avoid a major conflagration in the Gulf region which could involve the entire area.

The Saudis should realise that weakening Jordan will not serve their aims or their security, now or later. They should remember that Jordanians and our brethren in the occupied territories will not easily forgive those who intend to weaken their position in the face of Israeli threats and the influx of hundreds of thousands of Jews from the Soviet Union and elsewhere. Jordan truly and genuinely believes it is defending the Arab Nation and its resources in the Gulf and in Saudi Arabia through its principled and sound stand that calls for the withdrawal of foreign forces from the Gulf and an Arab solution to the crisis. The Kingdom has said and reaffirmed that it does not recognise the occupation nor annexation of Kuwait, and that it abides by Security Council resolutions and strives to ensure a negotiated settlement, not only for the Gulf conflict, but also other conflicts in the region. Likewise, Jordan urges our Saudi brothers to resort to the maintenance of civilised relations based, like they have always been, on mutual respect, brotherhood and understanding. The Saudis are thus urged to open dialogue with Jordan and to air their grievances rather than opt for unfriendly measures.

No matter what the result of the Gulf crisis might be, Jordanians and Saudis will always be neighbours and will always fight for the same causes. Sadly at the moment Jordanians here and Palestinians across the bridge feel a great deal betrayed by their Saudi brothers. Sentiments are running high, but thanks to a wise leadership there is still ample hope that the present crisis in relations between the two countries will soon be contained for the benefit of all.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

AL Ra'i daily on Saturday described British Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd's call for an international conference to deal with the Middle East question and his criticism of Israel's inhuman practices in the occupied Arab lands as a welcome development. But, the paper said, that in trying to link the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question Hurd has followed a reverse pattern in that he insisted on an Iraqi withdrawal from Kuwait before such conference on the Middle East could take place. Hurd also claimed in his statement that the Gulf crisis delayed action to solve the Palestine problem, which is totally untrue since the Palestine problem has been outstanding for more than 23 years, long before the Gulf crisis and the international community did nothing to end it, the paper noted. It said that the United States and the Western alliance had helped Israel hold on to the occupied Arab territories instead of forcing it to abandon them, and Washington has been obstructing the convening of an international conference to bring to an end the Arab-Israeli conflict, the paper noted. It said that Iraq has not put forth a condition for an end to the problems of the Middle East and has called for a simultaneous withdrawal from Palestine and Kuwait. But putting forth his ideas, Hurd has indirectly linked the Gulf crisis with the Palestine question, but, said the paper, he failed to call for an immediate Israeli withdrawal and the recognition of the Palestinian people's rights in their homeland.

A columnist in Al Ra'i Arabic daily Saturday calls on the government not to wait for more promises of aid to the national economy but to take immediate steps to prepare the country for a long period of steadfastness, and to adopt measures enabling the Kingdom to offset the consequences of the sanctions imposed on Iraq and adversely affecting the Jordanian economy. Fahed Al Fanek also says that the Jordanian government, which has received only promises of aid, should divert the thousands of evacuees towards Saudi Arabia where they can be repatriated more easily and where the weather is warm enough in winter, unlike that in Jordan in the coming months. The writer says since the outbreak of the Gulf crisis, Jordan received promises from Germany, and Japan but not a single penny has been sent to the Jordanian treasury despite Jordan's demand of a \$2.2 billion in compensation for its huge losses. The United States has been giving Jordan empty promises about aid, trying to gain more time and hoping to pressure Jordan in succumbing to its own will and fall in line with those countries participated in the American-led invasion in confrontation with Iraq, the writer notes. He says that the government should take measures aimed at offsetting the current difficulties and dealing with any eventualities.

Sunday's Economic Pulse

Political, economic pressures strain the economy

WHEN the Gulf crisis erupted two months ago, the Jordanian economy was performing beautifully in accordance with the economic adjustment programme recommended by the International Monetary Fund (IMF). Actual performance in several areas exceeded the targets set forth in the programme, especially when it came to controlling inflation, reducing deficit in both the budget and the balance of payments, rebuilding of the Central Bank's reserves, stabilising the exchange rate, and restoring confidence as a prelude to starting new investments.

This is not to deny that the Jordanian economy was still in a difficult position. The standard of living in 1990 was almost 40 per cent below the level which had prevailed three years earlier, before the foreign debt crisis of 1988.

The Gulf crisis took the

Jordanian economy by surprise. The crisis erupted at a time when the Kingdom's economy was going in the right direction despite the difficult circumstances. It was in bad need of financial support. Unemployment was already at a worrying level of 20 per cent (15.6 per cent is the official figure).

Under the Gulf crisis, the Jordanian economy was dealt a painful blow in all its major sources of foreign exchange, namely Arab aid, expatriates' remittances, and proceeds of exports of goods and services.

It is only natural that the economic planners should tackle the new critical situation with new economic and financial policies and measures to absorb the shock and minimise the negative impact.

One example is oil. Its international price rose by over 100 per cent, and Saudi Arabia

decided to cut oil supplies to Jordan. Observers thought that the government will immediately do something about it. The government formally denied any intention to raise the price of fuel, or to ration its distribution. This attitude suggested that the government will only watch the development and hope that something will suddenly happen to save the economy, an attitude we experienced when the economic crisis of 1988 was building up.

The government is said to have formed five specialised committees to deal with five major issues such as unemployment and food security, in order to recommend courses of action. But the move is very slow. So far no urgent measures have been taken to protect the thin reserve of foreign exchange from depletion or to improve its allocation.

The government is said to be reluctant to take dramatic measures in order to avoid panic among the people. Citizens know well that our position has a price which should be paid and tolerated willingly. No one will blame the government; we know that we are targeted in order to suppress our national will.

Two weeks ago the minister of finance quantified to the press the direct losses of the Jordanian economy, resulting from the Gulf crisis and the application of economic sanctions. The huge losses scared the private sector.

In fact, losses listed by the minister represented the worst case scenario. That is, if Jordan did not receive any financial compensation, and the government did not take measures to minimise the losses, and businessmen in the private sector took things for granted

and did not do anything about it to avoid or reduce their losses and explore new opportunities.

By now the whole world is totally convinced that Jordan is the main victim of the situation, and that it should be compensated in accordance with Article 50 of the U.N. Charter.

However, so far nothing has been received, and only DM 200 million were committed by Germany. At writing time, we did not know if the current visit of the Japanese prime minister will end up with another definite commitment of urgent aid.

Two weeks ago, the sanctions committee of the Security Council was about to take a decision to compensate Jordan, but under American pressure, the decision was delayed. Obviously, the U.S. would like to take advantage of Jordan's urgency to extract

political concessions. This American position is hard to understand. The government of Jordan has already pledged to abide by the U.N. resolutions. The Jordanian people continues to be free and will not be influenced by economic temptation or deprivation because its position is a matter of principle.

The negative impact of the crisis on the Jordanian economy is real and substantial, but it is manageable, partially through receiving compensation, and partially through adaptation of our affairs to the new set of circumstances.

The first losers will be the international creditors who should not expect receiving interest nor principal until after the crisis, because the basic needs of the people have priority over the creditors' in the allocation of our foreign exchange's tight budget.

Why Arabs support Saddam

By Ghada Karmi

I, like many Arabs who have known and admired Sir James Craig over the years, can have no doubt that the concern he expressed in the last issue of Middle East International over Arab support for Saddam Hussein during the Gulf crisis was a genuine expression of his disappointment and incomprehension. I have long respected his erudition and insight into Arab affairs and was saddened to read of his dilemma about his issue. And yet, it is reflected by my own as a Palestinian Arab. How do I convey our point of view to his and to our other Western friends without compromising our longstanding friendship with them? For the Gulf crisis has exploded old assumptions and exposed long held misconceptions for all of us. Nevertheless, we who sympathise with the views that Sir James finds so incomprehensible and regrettable must preserve our links across the political divide by communicating and explaining why we feel as we do. Perhaps this article can help towards that necessary dialogue.

It seems to me that right from the start of the Gulf crisis there have been some fundamental fallacies in the West's perception of the Arab position. Nowhere has this been clearer than in the almost wilful Western misrepresentation of Arab support for Iraq as enthusiasm and approval for the person of Saddam Hussein himself. It apparently seeks to imply that the Arabs were either so foolish or irresponsible as to have forgiven him for his "bloody" misdeeds. The inevitable and logical question has been posed by Western friends and foes alike: how could any Arab opt to live under Saddam's tyranny, and would not the rule of any Gulf Sheikh, however

feudal, be better? The conflict in the Gulf has been portrayed over here as a war between the civilised (Western) world and the barbaric personality of one man. Seen thus, how could any civilised person fail to back the right side?

The second fallacy is to regard the mass popular response in the Arab World as being of a different order of validity from that of the Arab governments. In Western perceptions, the response of ordinary Arab people to the crisis, whether in occupied Palestine, Jordan, Syria or Algeria, has been differentiated from that of pro-Western ("right thinking") Arab governments. It has been devalued as either ignorantly naive, irrelevant or simply wrong. The official pro-West, anti-Saddam stance of these governments is regarded as the only valid response in the current situation, even though these same governments have long been criticised in the West for their lack of democratic representation. It is hard to escape the conclusion that their current respectability in the West is due only to their acquiescence in Western strategy over Iraq.

But of course, as Sir James points out, it is not only ordinary Arabs who support Iraq, but also people who should know better. Intellectuals, many of them familiar with Western values as well. While he can dismiss popular Arab reactions as comprehensible but essentially misguided, the apparent support of this group for Saddam is far more serious. And he is right to a degree: if Western criteria are used to define the situation, it must follow that the only rational course for such people is to support Western friends of the Arabs in their opposition to Saddam. And herein lies the third fallacy: the expectation that Arabs will automatically accept the West's

version of their situation and agree trustingly in its prescription for their future well-being.

The fact is that Arab support for Saddam is a complex phenomenon. At one level, it is not the man himself whom Arabs support, but what he symbolises: a steadfast resistance to Western imperialism. No matter what his actual intentions were in initiating recent events, nor what his personal characteristics or past history have been, he has in effect thrown down a gauntlet to the most powerful state on earth. For the Arabs, it is not the issue of Iraq's invasion which is important, nor Saddam's ultimate aims, whatever they might be, but the sheer fact of his apparently fearless stand against the might of Western world. This, to a people long humiliated, controlled, and dictated to by Western powers, is like balm to an open wound. Their support for Saddam is a measure, not of their foolishness, but of their perceptions of the West's callous disregard and exploitation of the Arab World.

Smoke-screen of indignation The Arabs do not see this as a conflict about international law or the need to stop a tyrant in his tracks. Western hypocrisy with regard to both of these objectives is too well known for such aims to be taken seriously. Can the West, which has condoned the invasion of Grenada and Panama, the occupation of the West Bank, and supported Pol Pot and Pinochet, presume to moralise to the Arabs over Saddam Hussein? The Arab World sees it instead as a flagrant example of imperialist arrogance in which the U.S. has intervened in the region to protect its own interests and to ensure the flow of cheap oil behind a smoke-screen of international moral indignation over Saddam. And in that sense, Arabs see Saddam more as sinned against than sinning. While the Arab

World did not condone his invasion of Kuwait, the West's bungling insensitive response has ensured him a popular level of support he would otherwise not have had, precisely because of the moral hypocrisy involved.

For the Palestinians, there is an added edge. It was the West which imposed Israel on their homeland, and it is the West which maintains it there. Three years of the intifada and a thousand Palestinian dead has not brought them one inch closer to the goal of their own independent state. With a right-wing government in Israel preparing to settle a million Soviet Jews throughout the territory it controls, and the U.S.-PLO dialogue — such as it was — terminated, the outlook for the Palestinians has never been so bleak. Saddam's toughness and strength at least held out a promise of a new approach, if nothing more. At the very least, they reasoned, things could not get worse. And the irony is, they might turn out to be right; if this crisis were to yield a Settlement of the Palestinian problem, then their support was not misplaced.

The kernel of my message for our Western friends is this: it is not that their case for opposing Saddam Hussein is wrong. On the contrary, it is both legitimate and morally justified. What makes it unacceptable to us is the fact that it comes from a source which is discredited in Arab eyes because of its past behaviour and which is seen as morally bankrupt. That the West should have discovered a conscience so late in the day over one conflict in the Middle East while ignoring the others is both implausible and unconvincing.

The writer is a Palestinian doctor working in London. The article is reprinted from Middle East International.

War in Gulf could kill world economies

By Christopher Flavin

WASHINGTON — It is doubtful that American policymakers fully comprehend the scale of the risk involved in a war with Iraq. It is not just thousands of lives that are at stake but the world economy as well.

Worldwide gasoline rationing could be among the first direct results of a full-scale conflict. Further along in the crisis the casualties could include the financial collapse of developing countries, outright failure of the economic reforms in Eastern Europe and a severe shock to the world banking system.

The basis for this pessimism is a realistic appraisal of a war's effect on oil markets.

If hostile forces from Saddam Hussein could send prices soaring towards \$40 a barrel, imagine what a few well-placed rockets in the Saudi oil fields could do. Prices as high as \$60 to \$80 a barrel are likely, depending on the scale of the war.

Already, oil costs about \$38 a barrel, more than double the level of three months ago. During the Iranian revolution of 1979 it took 14 months for oil prices to double. Given a continuing shortage of light crude oil, prices may continue rising as the winter heating season approaches.

The problem is that Saudi Arabia's oil fields are now pumping more than seven million barrels of oil a day — one-third of the oil traded on the world market. These fields are in the middle of the area of conflict.

Iraq has some of its most battle-ready armoured divisions and an array of short- and medium-range missiles within a few hundred miles of much of the Saudi oil infrastructure. Other major oil exporters such as Qatar and the United Arab Emirates are only a short distance farther south.

Such facilities are hard to defend. And any sort of attack, particularly one involving chemically armed missiles, could frighten off Saudi Arabia's 300,000 expatriate oil-field workers, causing production to

plummet. Cleaning up the oil facilities so workers could return after a war would take months.

Even full use of the world's strategic oil reserves could not make up for the losses that would result from a major disruption of Saudi supplies. Moreover, these reserves are limited and could be exhausted in six months if they had to be used at their maximum rate.

Not even at the start of World War II was the world economy on the line the way it is now. Today, national economies are more intertwined and everyone is far more dependent on oil.

The developing countries and East European nations face the most serious financial risks. They are in no shape to pay doubled oil import bills. A series of defaults could cascade through the world banking system.

A short conflict with a clear victory by U.S.-led forces is one scenario for avoiding such a cataclysm. But while U.S. military planners hope for such a result, President Bush would be wise not to count on it.

Iraq's military has had a month and a half to prepare for war, dispersing planes and missiles and hardening defences. The 430,000 troops and 3,500 tanks in southern Iraq and Kuwait have moved into fortified positions from which they would be hard to dislodge.

Iraq's military leaders have experience with bloody wars of attrition, and they would have the incomparable advantage of fighting for and on their homeland. The United States faces the uncomfortable reality that the oil facilities it seeks to protect could be among the first casualties of war.

It was not, of course, just a ruthless dictator that got us into this spot. A failed energy policy, shortsighted attempts to play Middle Eastern politics and a series of diplomatic blunders played roles as well.

These errors cannot be reversed by a military strike. The enormous stakes demand we exhaust all diplomatic options before taking irreversible military steps — The New York Times.

German unity paymaster has hard work ahead

By Andrea Shalal-Esa Reuter

BONN — With a single state now formed, the burden of German unification rests squarely on the shoulders of the man who has to find the money to pay for it — Finance Minister Theo Waigel.

The bushy-browed Bavarian, put in charge of Bonn's purse strings just over a year ago, launched into the task with gusto on Friday by presenting his third budget draft this year.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl did not attend the session, Bonn's first since unification on Wednesday. Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher had it easy defending his treaty restoring German sovereignty 45 years after World War II ended.

But Waigel put up with several hours of haranguing from the opposition Social Democrats (SPD), who have made the question of unity's soaring costs one of their main issues in the campaign for the first all-German elections in December.

The third budget draft, which raises the federal budget deficit to nearly 70 billion marks (\$45 billion) compared to 20 billion marks (\$13 billion) in 1989, is only part of an overall bill that could reach 120 billion marks (\$78 billion) this year.

"For having been in office such a short time, Waigel has been very successful," says Norbert

Walter, chief economist for Deutsche Bank. "So far he has done a surprisingly good job of solving the financing issues behind German unity."

Ever-worsening statistics from the east including soaring unemployment and steep declines in industrial production show this task will not be easy.

Officials in what was East Germany say the forthcoming industrial shake-up could wipe out a third of the region's 8,000 firms and leave three million people unemployed.

"It is an extraordinary feeling to be a minister in these times," Waigel told the business magazine Wirtschaftswoche.

"Not a feeling of pride or satisfaction, but always a feeling of responsibility, when I see the people in East Germany and all their hopes and expectations."

Social security payments are skyrocketing, catastrophic environmental damage needs attention, nearly all infrastructure from roads to telecommunications must be modernised or replaced.

While private funds will help, Waigel's latest 1990 budget draft shows Bonn will bear the main financial burden for unity.

Waigel is already under SPD fire for boosting government borrowing to fund unity and not cutting spending further.

"The one criticism one can



make is that Waigel has not been forceful enough about cutting spending, including subsidies to Berlin and the former border areas," Walter said.

Waigel, a lawyer by training, has been steadfast on a pillar of the centre-right government's re-election programme: "We will not raise taxes to finance unity."

"But the exclusion should be limited to unity," Waigel said recently, hinting that an escalation of the Gulf crisis could force Bonn to break its promise and boost taxes.

SPD campaigners and some economists say Bonn will renege on its promise not to raise taxes after the Dec. 2 election. If it does, Waigel will be the one facing the most criticism.

"Although if they do raise taxes it won't hurt Waigel's reputation too much. Everyone knows the costs are enormous," said Warren Oliver, economist at UBS Phillips and Drew.

Waigel has surprised many who felt the bricklayer's son lacked the prowess to take charge of Europe's biggest economy.

He ingratiated himself in Bonn by holding an occasional "bi-fest," something unthinkable during the reign of his cool predecessor Gerhard Stoltenberg. He won the markets' favour by repealing an unpopular withholding tax just weeks after he replaced Stoltenberg, the tax's architect.

Most recently he won new respect in London by supporting Britain and the Bundesbank who want to slow progress towards European monetary union.

This put him at odds with Genscher, who wants Bonn to forge ahead with European unity on all fronts. Diplomats here expect Genscher to win while the economists say Waigel will prevail.

Waigel has also crossed swords with Helmut Haussmann, the Free Democrat heading the economics ministry who proposed making Eastern Germany a "low tax area" to promote investment without consulting first with the finance ministry.

"It is clear Waigel believes, and I think correctly, that he is the stronger of the two," Walter said of this dispute.

LETTERS

Denominated

To the Editor:

ON Oct. 4, 1990 your newspaper published, on page 7, an article dealing with economic situation in Yugoslavia. The article's title is "Belgrade faces problems as inflation resurges."

I would like to bring your attention to the following article's sentence: "Markovic has devalued the Yugoslav dinar by 10,000 times, pinned its value to the Deutschmark," which represents a mistake, because the Yugoslav government, on Dec. 18, 1989, didn't devalue Yugoslav dinar by 10,000 times but denominated the Yugoslav currency by 10,000 times. This is a big and substantial difference.

I would kindly ask you to inform your readers about the mistake which was published in the article, mentioned above.

Marcel Koprol
 General Director
 Yugoslav Chamber of Economy
 Middle East Office
 Amman.

Master engineer works on anchoring island

By Katia Sabat

CAIRO — In keeping with the great works of his pharaonic ancestors, expert engineer Mohamed Baligh is pushing the frontiers of the possible: his latest project is to build the longest suspension bridge in the world. Linking the island of Sicily, at the south-western tip of the Italian boot, to the mainland, the bridge would span the Messina Straits over 3.4 km.

For Sicily's 5.12 million inhabitants who have had to rely on erratic ferries and unpredictable airline schedules to reach the continent, the bridge is an old dream few thought would become reality.

With a team of international experts, Baligh is using previous research he completed to plan the bridge. Youthful-looking at 47, he has come a long way since he arrived to study at the United States' most famous scientific and engineering college — the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in Boston. With a meager stipend of \$217 a month, he found the going tough. "It was a time of great austerity in Egypt, and it was impossible to take hard currency out of the country," Baligh recalled in a recent interview. "I'll never forget those first few months in the U.S. Not only was money a problem, but so was

the language!"

Being a graduate of the engineering college at Cairo University, Baligh was no greenhorn, but he found American teaching methods very different. For example, "it was much more theoretical than the education I had received in Cairo," he said. Undeterred, he crammed as many classes as he could possibly fit into his schedule and at 26 earned a master's degree, first in his class.

This achievement earned him a job with the U.S. space agency, the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA). Baligh worked at the jet propulsion lab where researchers were developing the first outer space motor car, the "Moon Rover." In 1972 Baligh obtained a doctorate, partly for his two years of research on the project. "With the difference in gravity on the moon where a little jump 5 inches high turns into a 30-inch leap, we had to develop a theory on the resistance of a wheel against the ground under normal conditions and calculate what it would be on the moon according to the gravity and nature of the ground," he explained. Baligh also had to determine how much energy the Moon Rover's Light-powered batteries would require to propel the vehicle along.

Baligh's research for the

second half of his doctorate has had many applications in modern physics, especially as it relates to work on the ocean floor. He studied, for example, the effects of deep boring into the earth's crust and developed an instrument called the "Piezocene" that gives a very precise measurement of the nature and resistance of the ground. This instrument is now standard equipment in ocean-bed exploration.

Baligh went on to a job with a private company called "S Cube," which stands for the three initials of "Systems, Science and Software." Explained the engineer: "This company worked for the U.S. Defence Department studying vibrations from the Soviet Union in order to distinguish between a nuclear explosion and an earthquake. The Soviets were using a system by which they would detonate atomic bombs in the crevice of a geological fault line. On our seismographs, it looked very much like an earthquake."

Although Baligh was offered a salary increase by S Cube, he could not turn down an offer from MIT for a job as associate professor of civil engineering, although the pay was only half of what he earned — "I was back to doing what I really loved: research and study." Named assistant professor within three years,

he was aiming higher, at tenure as permanent faculty member. "I was up against the toughest part of MIT's recruitment system," he recalled. "You have to prove that after teaching for six years you have reached a sufficiently high level of acclaim through your work, research and publications."

Baligh had to gather 28 letters of recommendation from the highest experts in the world in his field. The years go by fast when, on top of doing research, which is expensive, you have to find sponsors for scientific projects, he said. Then writing up your findings and publishing also takes time. Another hurdle is that "at MIT, all the professors have their in-house proteges, and I came from another institution. It was tough, especially since only 25 per cent of candidates are accepted. But I had set that goal for myself, and I got there." In the past 10 years Baligh has generated and managed more than \$2 million of sponsored research from U.S. government agencies and private industry, and he has over 100 publications to his credit. He also earned the 1987 James Croes Medal, which is considered one of the two highest awards of the American Society of Civil Engineers, as well as the prestigious British Palmer Prize.

Unchanged by success, he lives with his young wife and two teen-age children in a tastefully decorated but unpretentious apartment in Cairo. One of his complaints is that his work often takes him abroad. Wherever oil exploration teams are probing the ocean bed he is often called to help set up off-shore oil rigs: his assignments include the Arctic, the coast of Venezuela, and the North Sea. Near Norway he helped build what amounted to a small city standing on pillars 40 metres above the high sea. "It was 200m long, a real artificial island the size of two soccer fields. We had to sink foundations 200m into the ground, added to which the surface of the sea bed was covered with soft clay deposits 8m thick," he explained. Having recently perfected his Piezocene on a project in Venezuela, he used it on the Norway project to gather vital information about the nature of the soil, metre by metre as they bore 200m down.

Baligh is using his instrument again in the study of the Messina Strait project. "Several plans are being considered," he noted. "The most ambitious is to have the bridge suspended by two pylons only. The other more classical options have four, six, or eight pylons. My job is to study



After teaching at the U.S.' most prestigious scientific and engineering school, Egypt's Mohamed Baligh is making plans for a bridge between Italy and Sicily and another one between Egypt and Saudi Arabia.

the ocean bed close to shore, and also in mid-sea to give the builders the clearest possible picture of what to anticipate."

Another feat of engineering considered by Baligh is linking Egypt to Saudi Arabia over the Gulf of Aqaba. Stretching from the east coast of Sinai some 22km across the arm of the Red Sea to Saudi Arabia, the bridge would

have a considerable social, political, economic and touristic impact. It would be the quickest overland route for the millions of Muslim pilgrims going to Mecca every year from the Maghreb and the rest of the African continent. "I hope we can solve the financial problems involved so we can get down to the scientific problems presented," Baligh said. "I

am planning a series of studies on the resistance of the coral reefs. What we will have to remember is that in tropical seas, the salt eats up everything, even concrete." Concludes the engineer: "Like every big project, the bridge over the Gulf of Aqaba raises a series of problems. The solution can only benefit mankind" — World News Link.

Two-day weekend announced

(Continued from page 1)

the steadfastness of this nation and its army," Badran told reporters. "But we have not received any answer yet."

Saudi Arabia supplied 660,000 barrels of oil to Jordan in September as part of a one-million-barrel supply before switching off the pipeline on Sept. 19. It cited what it said was non-payment of \$40 million in oil bills since 1986 and \$6 million since January this year. Jordan said the \$40 million payment has been waived by King Fahd of Saudi Arabia but the Saudi oil minister said the King had very little to do with "commercial transactions in oil."

Despite the Saudi assertions that the cut-off in oil supply was purely a commercial decision, it is widely seen as a reflection of Riyadh's anger over what it sees as the deep pro-Iraqi sentiments in Jordan.

The cut-off in Saudi oil supply was followed by an expulsion of 32 Jordanian diplomats and embassy staff from Saudi Arabia. In protest against the move, the Jordanian ambassador was recalled from Riyadh and it was reported Saturday that the Saudi ambassador to Jordan was recalled home.

Jordanian officials, who have opted for quiet diplomacy in the row with Saudi Arabia, Saturday refused to characterise the recall of the Saudi ambassador as any form of strain in diplomatic relations. "It is up to the Saudi government to recall its diplomats whenever it wants," said a senior Foreign Ministry official.

The Saudi military, cultural, trade and labour attaches have already returned home.

Saudi Arabia also sought to choke Jordanian agricultural exports by denying entry to trucks carrying Jordan produce across the border. Amman promptly banned the transit through

Jordanian territory of all trucks bound for Saudi Arabia and the Gulf states and the issue was partially resolved under a delicate compromise after produce prices quadrupled in one day in several Gulf states in the absence of Jordanian, Syrian and Turkish produce reaching there.

Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Tahaat Al Taher said last month that Jordan had only a "few weeks" of oil stock, and unless arrangements were made to ensure continued supplies rationing would have to be introduced.

Jordan's daily consumption is estimated at around 60,000 barrels, and only a negligible part of this requirement is met from its oil wells near the border with Iraq.

Badran said that Jordan had enough oil reserves for the moment and that it would use part of its reserves until the problem was solved.

France will not be party to war

(Continued from page 1)

It said Ambassador Marco Colombo and the embassy's first secretary had gone to Baghdad.

Iraq said Friday that the United States and its Western allies were trying to control the oil of the Middle East and to "impose imperialist political, economic and military hegemony over the world."

In an uncompromising speech to the General Assembly, it said the way to achieve peace and justice was to tackle all the issues of the Middle East equally, including those of Palestine, Lebanon and the Gulf, as proposed by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein Aug. 12.

The Iraqi address, three times postponed, was delivered on behalf of Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz by Iraq's deputy U.N. representative, Sabah Tahir Zakari.

He substituted for U.N. Ambassador Abdul Amir Al Anbari, admitted to a hospital overnight after suffering a severe nosebleed at the United Nations Thursday shortly before he was to have addressed the assembly.

The Iraqi delegation, emphasising its claim that Kuwait is Iraq's 19th province and has no right to a U.N. seat, walked out when Dharar

Razouki of Kuwait replied to the Iraqi speech.

Saudi Arabian U.N. Representative Samir Shihabi and Ambassador Thomas Pickering of the United States later also attacked the Iraqi statement.

"Brazil's navy minister said that the lack of a unified command could lead to units of the multinational force 'now in the Gulf fighting each other by mistake'."

Admiral Mario Cesar Flores told Reuters in an interview that in the event of an Iraqi air attack, "North American (U.S.) planes could attack British planes by mistake because of the lack of a unified defence."

"At 1,000 kilometres per hour in the air, nobody knows who's who," the admiral said.

To solve the problem, the United Nations should provide a mandate for a unified command structure, he added.

British women and children still in Kuwait were urged Saturday to join a flight to London via Baghdad planned for next Wednesday.

A Foreign Office message beamed

to Kuwait by British Broadcasting Corporation radio said those wanting to leave should get in touch with the British or American embassies to secure a seat on the U.S. chartered aircraft.

A British warship enforcing a U.N. trade embargo against Iraq later accepted a merchant vessel in the Gulf Saturday — and found it was chartered by the U.N. to carry refugees fleeing Kuwait.

The destroyer Gloucester stopped the Indian cargo ship Tipu Sultan, the ministry of defence said.

The ship, which had originally taken food into Kuwait, was returning to Dubai, carrying mainly Indian refugees.

A Scottish scientist, working for Kuwait's ministry of health, has died in Kuwait, his family said Saturday.

William Atack, 46, and worked in Kuwait for eight years as a scientific officer at the ministry.

Atack's family said in a statement they had learnt of his death from the British Foreign Office Sept. 30 and added: "It is understood that he took ill but did not recover."

"The cause of his death is not known."

Goitre remains common despite availability of iodised salt

THERE are more people with goitre in the Federal Republic of Germany than anywhere else in Europe. Fifteen million, or one in four, used to be said to suffer from a morbid enlargement of the thyroid gland that produces a swelling in front of the throat.

Latest estimates indicate that the complaint is even more widespread. Stuttgart specialist Professor Rainer Hehrmann says 42 per cent of men and 30 per cent of women are affected.

Signs of goitre have been found in over 50 per cent of 13-year-old German school-children.

Iodine deficiency is known to be mainly to blame. The thyroid gland, which is in the neck, needs iodine to produce hormones essential for growth, metabolism and the development of the central nervous system and intelligence.

At a Thyroid Gland Forum meeting held in Nice, France, Professor Hehrmann described the iodine supply in the Federal Republic as catastrophic.

It was the inglorious exception in Europe, being the only country where household salt was not sold with a statutory iodine admixture and the individual was left to fend for himself in ensuring an adequate trace element.

The critical level is agreed to be an intake of less than 70 microgrammes per day. When iodine intake is less, the thyroid gland can only produce

the hormone quantities it needs by creating extra cells — the growth known as goitre.

The easiest way to counteract iodine deficiency is to use iodine-enriched salt, which is readily available. Fish is also rich in natural iodine. Doctors can prescribe iodine tablets if the natural supply is inadequate.

A healthy thyroid gland produces exactly the right quantity of hormones. A hyperactive thyroid, or its opposite, is a sign of imbalance.

Either is usually first noticed when a swelling can be felt or seen in front of the throat. If you feel you have a swelling in the front of your throat, Professor Hehrmann says, then make sure you go and have a medical.

Goitre is more than just unsightly. It can often cause serious upsets that affect the entire organism. It is certainly the first sign of roughly 80 per cent of thyroid conditions.

Three out of 10 goitre patients have thyroid glands that produce either too much or too few hormones.

Goitre is not, to begin with, accompanied by bodily ailments. The first signs are a feeling of pressure in the throat. Patients feel they have a constant lump in their throat.

They may also feel uncomfortable when wearing high-necked clothes. Once the condition is more advanced patients have difficulty in swallowing and then feel hoarse

and breathless.

These symptoms do not, as a rule, occur until the swollen thyroid gland has started to exert pressure on adjacent organs, such as the respiratory and alimentary tract, vocal chords and blood vessels.

Doctors attach great importance to spotting goitre in its early stages. The sooner it is treated the greater the likelihood of a cure.

Professor Hehrmann says there is little point in increasing the iodine intake of patients who have had the condition for years; their thyroid glands will no longer be able to convert iodine into hormones.

In their case artificial hormones must be prescribed and taken.

An adequate iodine supply is particularly important during pregnancy, when women need added iodine, not just to supply the foetus but in connection with metabolic changes they themselves undergo.

Hamburg gynaecologist Professor Heinz Günter Bohnet recommends taking iodine tablets during pregnancy. It isn't medication in the usual sense of the term, merely a substitute for a nutritional requirement that is frequently unavailable in the quantity required.

Extra iodine ensures that babies are not born with enlarged thyroid glands, which is currently the case in six per cent of live births.

— The German Tribune.

Sudan moves to avert food shortage

By Mohammad Ahmed Hisham

KHARTOUM — Sudanese officials have warned of the possibility of a repeat of the large-scale displacement of people which occurred as a result of the 1983-4 drought.

Over 4,000 refugees from northern Kordofan are camping at the villages of Abu Zeid and El Muleh outside Khartoum according to the city commissioner Brigadier Mohammad Osman Mohammed Saeed. These villages were the focus of a huge influx of people forced to flee their homes during the 1983-4 famine.

About two million of Khartoum's current population of five million are estimated to have been displaced during that drought.

Fears of food shortages following poor rainfall pushed up the price of the main staple food, durrah, from 400 Sudanese pounds (\$35) a sack to around 1,200 pounds in early September. Market sources attributed the price hike to a fall in deliveries from the main production areas in eastern Sudan to the central market at Omdurman.

But others blame the rise on middlemen and black marketeers who, they say, by hoarding and smuggling have exaggerated the impact of the fall in production.

Durrah production has fallen from over five million tonnes in 1988/9 — which gave an export surplus of 1.2 million tonnes — to just 1.8 million tonnes this year. The forecast had been for three million tonnes.

Commerce Minister Dr. Awad El Gaz said that during a recent visit to El Gedarf he learned that about 700 trucks had been loaded

with durrah, some apparently for smuggling the grain out of the country.

The government, he said, had decided to buy all available supplies of durrah and sell it to the public through rationing cards at less than half the market price. This subsidy will cost the government around 200 million pounds.

Fears of an imminent famine have also boosted the prices of animal feed. For instance, one feddan of cane-fodder jumped from around 6,000 pounds to 12,000 pounds in mid-September.

Poultry feed prices also rose substantially, pushing up the price of a dozen eggs from 21 pounds to 30 pounds. The knock-on effect of the feed price rise was to push down livestock prices, with the price of sheep, for example, falling from 1,200-1,500 pounds per head to less than 1,000 pounds.

Minister for Animal Welfare, Dr. Abu Al Gasim Ahmed Shummo, said the government had taken measures to protect livestock farmers from the impact of drought, including wells and opening up new areas for grazing.

he said there were plans to use the railway to transport livestock to Khartoum from El Obied, the capital of Kordofan province, and Nyala, capital of southern Darfur province in western Sudan.

The ministry planned to provide animal health care, as well as sending emergency supplies of animal feed to selected areas with good irrigation and implementing a rescue plan to save female livestock from slaughter.

In addition, he said, the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) had promised to provide shipments of maize and soybeans — PANOS features.

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Jordan Times

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

China defeats Philippines in Asian Games men's basketball

PEKING (Agencies) — China defeated a Philippine professional team 90-76 Saturday night and won the men's basketball gold medal of the Asian Games.

In the women's final earlier, South Korea outshot the favored Chinese team and won the women's basketball gold with a 77-70 triumph.

The Philippine men salvaged some pride even in their loss, in a quarterfinal game, the Chinese had drubbed them 125-60.

This time, China jumped off to a 53-35 halftime lead and stayed safely ahead throughout the second half.

Wang Fei led China's scoring with 20 points, while Avelino Lim led the Philippines with 25.

South Korea downed Japan 99-74 for the men's bronze medal.

In the women's gold medal game, the Koreans hit on 58 percent of their shots to 49 percent for the taller Chinese. They came back from a 36-34 halftime deficit and gained revenge for a 75-60 loss in the games preliminary round, in which China went

undefeated.

The jubilant winners threw themselves into a pile as they hugged each other in center court, and then tossed their coach in the air.

South Korea's Seong Jeong-A, a 1.84-metre centre who was dwarfed by China's 2.04-metre Zheng Haixia, led scoring with 19 points. Teammate Chio Kyung-Hee, a 1.64-metre outside shooter, scored 14.

Zheng and Wang Fang each had 18 for China, which received the silver medal.

"Our players didn't worry about the results. They were happy in their playing," South Korean coach Chung Joo-Hyun told reporters later.

Chung said that after several narrow losses to China in games in South East Asia, "after returning to Korea we concentrated on hard training. The Asian Games is the biggest competition in Asia. We went all out to make preparations for the Asian Games."

In the game for the bronze, Taiwan defeated Japan 90-71.

Diving

Meanwhile a quiet Taiwanese schoolboy turned in a final medal-winning dive from the three metre springboard at the Asian Games Saturday to snatch the bronze from his North Korean rival behind China's superstars.

Crowd favourite Lee Yuan-Ming erased North Korean An Chol-Hyok's one-point lead with a dramatic final dive to leap into third place.

China's world champion Tan Liangde won the gold with a superb performance while teammate Li Deliang netted the silver, a universally predicted result which echoed a similar one-two in the women's event.

China's Gao Min topped her own world best result with 630.66 to wrap up the women's contest, far ahead of teammate Zhang Yiping and bronze winner Yuki Motobuchi of Japan.

"That's my best result and a world best result," said a smiling Gao, winner of the event at the 1988 Olympics.

Tan could not match that feat in the men's competition, but scored the day's only perfect 10 on his second dive to set the tone for the contest.

The lanky Tan, diving's top bog since American Greg Louganis retired two years ago, brought the crowd alive with a gravity-defying reverse dive in the pike position.

The 25-year-old Olympic runner-up then proceeded to display his wide array of diving skills and precision mid-air control to rack up a string of 80-plus scores for a grand total of 759.63.

Silver medalist Li, 23, was likewise superb to finish with a total of 707.61.

The real battle was taking place far below.

Lee, the 16-year-old only child of a Taiwanese bus driver, clung narrowly to third place through most of the contest with a series of good competent dives.

But his ninth dive, a back two and a half somersault in the pike position, was a disaster, as he flopped badly in the water to score just 48.60.

Becker, Edberg to meet in Wimbledon final replay

SYDNEY (R) — World number one Stefan Edberg, a beaten man for nearly two sets, downed Ivan Lendl 3-6 7-6 6-3 in a scintillating Australian indoor tennis semifinal Saturday to book a Wimbledon final replay with Boris Becker.

"It's good for tennis to have the number one and two in the final. I can see how far I'm behind — if I'm behind," said Becker who hopes to unseat Edberg by the end of the year.

"We're both playing very good tennis right now and it'll bring out the best in me to play him. It will be mind games only out there tomorrow." The pair two have played each other 24 times, Becker winning 15.

Becker, 22, played well within himself to beat local favourite Todd Woodbridge 7-5 6-4 in Saturday's semifinal, bringing out his booming serve whenever trouble loomed.

However the German, who had not bothered to watch Woodbridge before their first meeting, was surprised by his 19-year-old opponent's touch and sliced backhand which kept him pinned to the baseline for most of the match.

"I had a lot of good shots but he was just too strong for me, he was just a bit too big," said the slender Woodbridge who beat fourth seed Brad Gilbert on the way to the last four.

Defending champion Lendl will ask himself for a long time how Edberg escaped a straight sets defeat in their first clash since the Swede beat Lendl in the semifinal at Wimbledon.

The U.S.-based Czechoslovak's serve and drive returns were all but unplayable in the first set and he frequently left Edberg playing at air with his power from the backcourt.

Edberg somehow held on to sneak the second set after Lendl,

leading 4-2, served a double fault on break point in the next game to allow the Swede back into it.

Lendl led 4-3 in the tie-break, with two serves to come but decided for once to play safe. Edberg won the next four points to clinch the set and for the first time force Lendl on to the back foot.

When Lendl lost concentration after being warned by umpire Richard Lugs for time wasting at a changeover, the 26-year-old was set for victory in his first appearance in Australia since retiring injured in the 1990 Australian Open final.

Lendl insisted he was just waiting for a dry towel but was obviously livid and dropped his serve in the next game to go 4-2 down.

But a great game of tennis was far from over. Serving for the match at 5-3, Edberg fell 0-40 behind and then saved four breakpoints before winning the 125-minute thriller with a simple volley.

Edberg, who took over Lendl's world number one ranking after Wimbledon, improved his records to eight wins in 18 clashes with Lendl, who is also his new doubles partner. Edberg has won four out of six since the beginning of 1989.

"I worked hard, I never gave up and it feels pretty good," Edberg said. "Every time we play tough matches. We know each other's games so well and it normally depends on who wakes up feeling better."

Lendl was disappointed. "I didn't do that bad. I feel a little unfortunate not to have come away with victory."

After an hour's break the two came out to win a titanic doubles semifinal against Australia's John Fitzgerald and Mark Woodforde, taking the final set tiebreak 14-12.

Schillaci extends his contract with Juventus

TURIN, Italy (AP) — Leading 1990 World Cup scorer Salvatore "Totò" Schillaci extended his contract with Juventus of Turin through the 1992-93 season, raising his annual salary to 1 billion lire (\$900,000), club sources said.

The negotiations Thursday took only a half hour between club President Vittorio Chianiso, Schillaci and his manager Antonio Caliendo and gave the 25-year-old Sicilian a yearly income near that of newly-hired Italian star Roberto Baggio.

Baggio, who joined Juventus from Fiorentina this past June for

a world record \$15-million transfer fee, gets more than \$1 million a year from his current club, which is owned by the Agnelli family of auto tycoons.

Schillaci, who joined Juventus in 1989 and made \$320,000 last year, earned an international fame by scoring six goals in the World Cup last summer and helping Italy to third place in the championship.

In the current season, Schillaci has scored two goals in first round of the Cupwinners Cup, but has no goals in four Italian League games.

Breukink keeps lead after 3rd day of Tour of Ireland

KILLARNEY, Ireland (AP) — Belgian Johan Museeuw edged a pack of 40 riders to win Friday's third stage of the Tour of Ireland cycling race but could not get any closer overall leader Eric Breukink.

Museeuw, who rides for the Lotto team, finished the 175-kilometre run from Kenmare to Killarney in 5 hours, 5 minutes, 6 seconds.

Museeuw, winner of two stages of the Tour de France in July, finished just ahead of Belgian compatriot Etienne de Wilde, with Ireland's Sean Kelly in third place.

Dutch rider Breukink, who entered the day with a 22-second lead over Museeuw, maintained that margin by finishing in the pack that recorded the same time as the stage winner.

Breukink, a member of the P.D.M. team, has an overall time of 16 hours, 25 minutes, 49 seconds. The 922-kilometre Tour of Ireland ends Sunday in Dublin.

Museeuw said he is resigned to battling for second place. "I don't think it will be possible to take the jersey from Breukink because my team is not strong enough," the Belgian said. "With Sean Kelly and Raul Alcalá his team will be hard to beat."

Kasparov-Karpov hostilities resume in title chess

NEW YORK (R) — In the past six years, world chess champion Garry Kasparov and chief rival Anatoly Karpov have hated each other on almost every continent. Now, they meet again in one of the sports world's fiercest rivalries.

A three-year ceasefire ends Monday night when the two men — both Soviet citizens and polar opposites in personality, politics and playing style — sit down at a New York hotel to begin their fifth title match.

They have played more than 120 games against each other with most ending in draws. Kasparov is champion by virtue of having won two games more than Karpov.

Opening ceremonies for the match will take place Sunday night. Both men predict victory

and each says he hopes never to have to play the other again.

At stake in the 12 matches in New York and a later 12 in Lyon, France, is a winner's purse of \$1.5 million.

The two-city format of the 1990 duel reflects growing international interest in the game Kasparov calls "the most violent of sports."

Kasparov's exploits — a television campaign for soft drink, an interview in Playboy magazine, an airlift rescue of Armenian relatives from his hometown of Baku and his outspoken denunciations of communism — have made title chess, and its champion, headline news.

Kasparov, 27, has held the crown since 1985 when he ended loyal Communist Party member Karpov's 10-year reign, becoming the youngest titleholder in his-

tory. His penchant for publicity and controversy has changed the image of the game. His chess is aggressive and flamboyant.

Arch-rival Karpov, 39, is soft-spoken and retiring, his hobby is stamp collecting. His playing style is quiet, marked by subtle moves.

Kasparov has charged that one of his aides was offered a \$100,000 bribe last week to reveal his strategy for the match with Karpov, who called the accusation an invention, nonsense and a ploy to hype interest in the match.

Kasparov's manager said the bribe offer was a routine preliminary to a Karpov match although neither he nor Kasparov accused Karpov of any wrongdoing or knowledge of the bribe offer.

Kasparov, still smarting from the years the Soviet establishment looked on Karpov as the embodiment of a new Soviet man, and on him as an untrustworthy upstart, says there are outside forces who want him to be defeated.

The match record of the two men illustrates their total conflict. In 1984 their first duel ended in scandal when FIDE (the International Chess Federation) stopped the match after 4 1/2 months of tedious play without decision.

Karpov led 5-3 with 40 draws in an unlimited contest to six wins, but had dropped the last two games when the event was halted. Kasparov accused officials of conspiring to rescue the exhausted champion, a shocking outburst in pre-game days.

South African sports groups expected to unite

CAIRO (AP) — Africa's main amateur athletics group has reported progress toward a decision on whether South African teams should be allowed to enter international competitions.

Lamine Diack, Senegalese head of the African Amateur Athletic Confederation, said the hope is that sports groups from the white-ruled country will decide a common position on the question.

That will be the purpose of a meeting he has scheduled with them for Nov. 2-4 in Harare, Zimbabwe, Diack told a news conference.

"There is no important change yet. We are following developments in that country," he said. Diack said the South African organizations met recently with Sam Ramsamy, president of the South African non-racial committee opposed to South Africa's apartheid system of racial segregation.

Ramsamy, a South African exiled for 18 years in London, reported to Diack's group a "movement toward unity" among South African sportsmen, Diack said.

"There can be an evolution in October in talks between Mandela and De Klerk," Diack said. "It seems to be moving in the right direction."

Nelson Mandela, vice president of the anti-apartheid African National Congress, has had a series of meetings with South Africa's President, F.W. de Klerk, who has initiated changes in his country's racial practices.

"We... decided to keep the pressure on South Africa but also to meet South African sports groups (at Harare) to decide their direction," Diack said.

Diack, in Cairo for the African Mobil Athletics Championships, met reporters with Primo Nebiolo of Italy, president of the International Amateur Athletics Federation.

An official of Diack's confederation said all South African sports organizations and those of African countries would have to agree on the thorny question of South Africa's participation before the current boycott is lifted.

Some South African anti-apartheid groups continue to support the sports boycott, saying sanctions should not be lifted until apartheid is dismantled everywhere and not only in sports organizations.

Several sports including soccer, tennis and rugby traditionally have had separate governing bodies for whites and blacks. But some have merged, and mergers are under way in the rest.

GOREN BRIDGE

WITH OMAR SHARIF & TAMMAM HIRSCH
1992 Tribune Media Services, Inc.

INSPIRATION IS BETTER THAN ROTE

North-South vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH
♠ Q J
♥ A Q 8 5
♦ A 10 9 8 5 3
♣ A 10 7
♠ 10 9 8 6 3
♥ A 5 2
♦ K 4 2
♣ Void

EAST
♠ Q 9 6 5 4 3 2
♥ A 5 2
♦ 1 9 7
♣ Void

SOUTH
♠ K 8
♥ K 7 4
♦ 10 6 3
♣ K J 7 4 2

The bidding:
South West North East
Pass Pass 1 ♠ 2 ♠
2 NT 3 ♠ 3 NT Pass
Pass Pass

Opening lead: Ten of ♠.
When your opponents reach a no trump contract after partner has bid a suit, it is usually correct to lead the suit. If it turns out that some other lead would have beaten the hand, so be it. However, if you don't lead his suit and allow the opponents to make an otherwise impossible contract, you have committed a grievous error and shattered partnership confidence.
That is all well and good, but

"usually" is not synonymous with "always." When this hand was played in the Life Masters Pairs Championship some years ago, my North-South pairs opted to play in three no trump rather than five clubs, which would have had no play against accurate defense. Most Wests led a spade and declarer rattled off nine fast tricks with the help of the diamond finesse.

When Hugh Ross and Erik Paulsen sat East-West, Paulsen decided he did not want to give declarer a free spade trick. Since East had made a weak jump overcall on what had to be a ratty suit, West decided that his partner, in all likelihood, had a trick in one of the side suits.

So Paulsen hit upon the ten of hearts as his opening lead and struck gold.
Ross won the first trick with the ace and had no problem finding the killing shift. Back came the queen of spades, pinning dummy's jack! Declarer could do no better than cover with the king and hope; then watch helplessly while the defenders rattled off seven spade tricks to rack up a four-trick set.

Not surprisingly, East-West earned a top score on the board. North-South failed to qualify for the next stage.

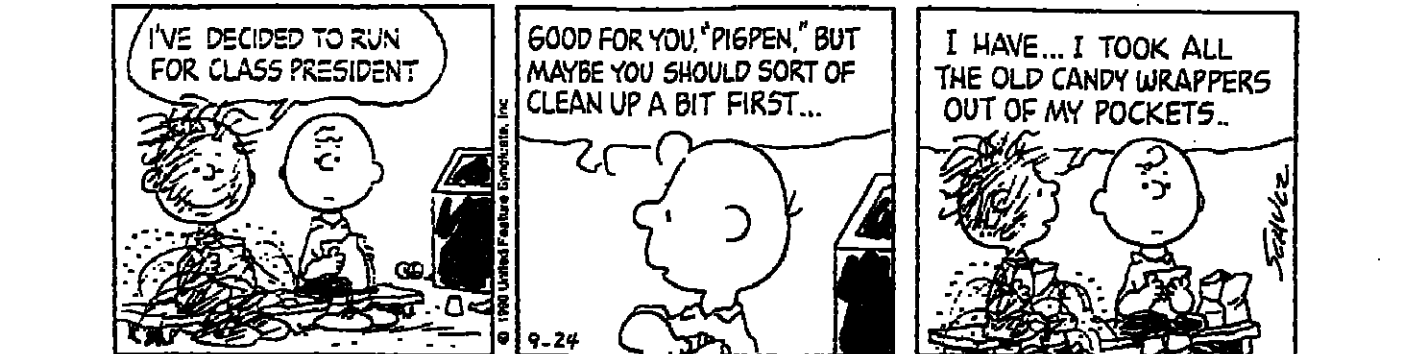
Mutt'n'Jeff



Andy Capp



Peanuts



HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SUNDAY OCTOBER 7, 1990

By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Use your aspects today to show your interest, affection and devotion for others by doing something that you know they would like you to do. Your good fortune to make a strong new contact.

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) Consider the most bizarre friends and acquaintances with whom you can get in contact and take from them parts of their ideas that can be useful to you.

Taurus: (April 20 to May 20) There is a bigwig who is very much in alignment in views with the modern scene and who can give you excellent suggestions for adding to your standing in your home.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) Be alive, alert and aware to unique means by which you can further your advanced goals and don't lose time and doing what makes them work.

MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to July 21) You can find a better means or formula by which to handle those various business and practical conditions that are now facing you.

LEO: (July 22 to August 21) Usually you like to associate with those who are a success and very conventional but today you make headway to listening to progressive minded individuals.

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) There are some modern inven-

tions that can be well utilized to make whatever your activities more efficient and productive so look into them.

LIBRA: (September 23 to October 22) There has been some entertainment or recreation you have long desired to become a part of and this is your day to make initial arrangements to do so.

SCORPIO: (October 23 to November 21) Conditions at your own home can be greatly improved now by combining the best in financial techniques from the past and current ones.

SAGITTARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Your ideas are very good for bringing routine associates closer to you, but you will need to be direct in stating what you want from them.

CAPRICORN: (December 22 to January 20) Look over whatever periodicals that are available and that focus upon more up to date ways to make your property and more valuable.

AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) A day and evening for you to get in touch with friends who are both unique and progressive to get benefit of their suggestions for your advance forward.

PISCES: (February 20 to March 20) Some very original ideas are certainly yours today so don't let them slip through your mind but make notations and take them to bigwigs who can make them a reality.

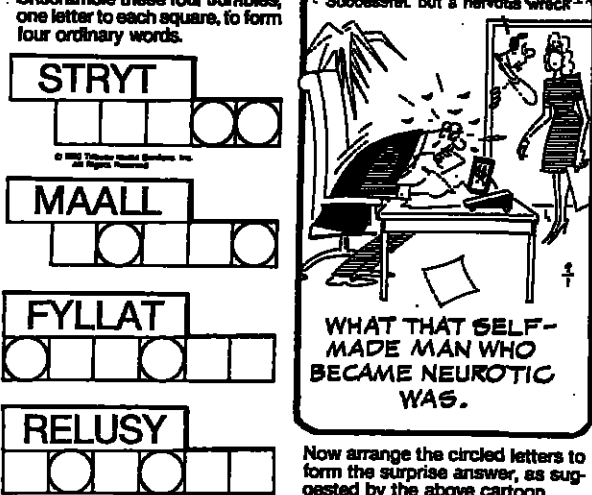
THE BETTER HALF

By Harris



JUMBLE

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.



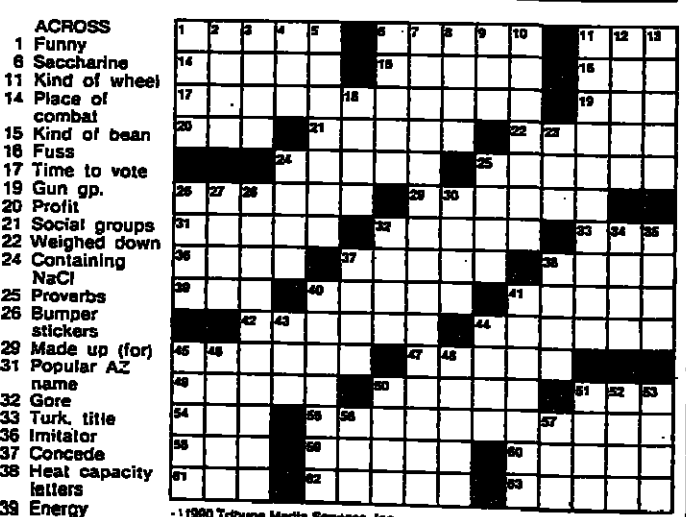
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: O O O O — "O O O O O"

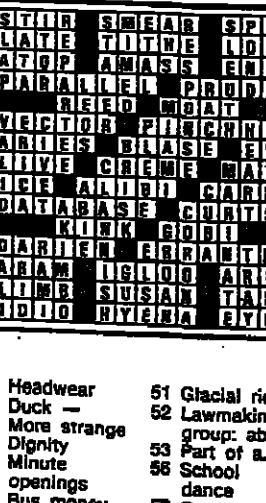
Yesterday's Jumbles: AVAIL MEALY HORROR GRASSY
Answer: That formerly rich man lived so long that this happened — HIS HEIRS TURNED GRAY

THE Daily Crossword

by Hank Harrington



Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:



15 morts et plus de 100 blessés

Dérapiage au Liban

Le blocus instauré il y a deux semaines par le président libanais Elias Hraoui sur la région de Metn, que contrôle le général Aoun, a abouti lundi à un véritable massacre. Ce blocus consistait à priver de denrées alimentaires essentielles, de carburant et de la liberté de circulation les 500.000 habitants de cette zone de 300 km carrés qui s'étend de Beyrouth vers le nord-est de la ville. Son but est d'obtenir le ralliement du général chrétien «rebelle» aux accords de Taef, sur la base desquels le président Hraoui a été élu en novembre 1989. Un blocus qui avait été présenté comme le seul moyen d'obtenir la reddition du général sans utiliser le canon, en désolidarisant la population du Metn d'avec «son» chef militaire.

L'effet a été inverse. La popularité en baisse du général Aoun a retrouvé un second souffle avec ce blocus et a conduit la population à s'en prendre au président Hraoui. Elle a fait valoir qu'elle était la première victime des restrictions et que, si M. Hraoui voulait comme il le dit depuis dix mois «en finir avec le général Aoun», il devait s'attaquer directement à lui. Dès le premier jour, en effet, le blocus avait provoqué une hausse vertigineuse des carburants et affecté l'approvisionnement en produits frais. Les stocks de médicaments commençaient à s'épuiser dans les services hospitaliers

et à poser des problèmes graves, auquel est venu s'ajouter le manque de personnel que les restrictions de circulation empêchaient de se rendre à son travail. C'est pour demander la levée de ce blocus qu'avait lieu lundi une manifestation pacifiste des habitants du Metn sur une portion de l'autoroute côtière libanaise. Alors que plusieurs centaines de personnes étaient bloquées sur une passerelle étroite, la fusillade a éclaté. Les tirs de mortier, de canon de char et de DCA (batteries anti-aériennes) ont fait quinze morts et plus de cent blessés parmi les manifestants. Les rescapés de Nahr al-Mott ont accusé les Forces Libanaises

de Samir Geagea (allié du président Hraoui) d'être à l'origine du massacre, tandis que les Forces Libanaises accusaient le général Aoun d'avoir monté ce «coup» contre son propre camp pour sensibiliser l'opinion à sa cause. Ce qui est sûr, à la lumière de ces événements, c'est que le blocus ne permet ni d'éviter le bain de sang, ni d'obtenir la reddition du général Aoun, qui a déjà réitéré jadis sa détermination à ne pas rallier l'administration Hraoui. Réagissant à ces événements, la France a réaffirmé «son soutien entier» au gouvernement libanais, tout en insistant sur son souhait que tout affrontement sanglant soit évité entre l'armée et les partisans du général chrétien.

(Agences)

Conférence au CERMOC

Les tribus bédouines et l'Etat

Ricardo Bocco est un chercheur italien de l'Institut de Recherches Musulmanes et Arabes Contemporaines (IRMAC) en France. Il est également assistant en sociologie poli-

tique à l'Institut Universitaire pour les Etudes du Développement à Genève. M. Bocco poursuit des recherches anthropologiques sur la Jordanie depuis neuf ans. La semaine dernière, il don-

nait une conférence au Centre d'Etudes sur le Moyen-Orient Contemporain (CERMOC) d'Amman pour nous faire partager quelques uns des fruits d'une recherche qui l'occupe depuis un certain temps déjà sur les tribus bédouines et l'Etat.

Une certaine ambiguïté entoure encore le mot tribu. Par exemple, en arabe, le concept est exprimé tantôt sous le vocable «Kabila», tantôt sous celui d'«Achira», ou encore d'«Hamula». De même, on se heurte parfois à des définitions primitives qui réduisent le sens du mot aux valeurs arabes morales telles que la générosité et le courage. En Jordanie, les tribus sont encore empreintes de certains mythes de pouvoir. Cela s'est manifesté au début des années 1980 par des épisodes au niveau national. Les tribus sont apparues clairement à cette occasion comme une question fondamentale. En 1983-84, un lien un grand débat sur la compatibilité entre tribalisme et démocratie. Lorsqu'un ministre déclara que le tribalisme était anti-démocratique, le Roi réagit immédiatement en publiant une lettre dans la quelle il affirmait que toute attaque contre le tribalisme devait être considérée comme une attaque contre lui-même.

Plus récemment encore, il y a quelques semaines, des tribus, sous différentes formes de signatures, ont publié des encarts publicitaires dans les journaux pour exprimer leur position vis-à-vis de la crise du Golfe et pour réaffirmer leur soutien au Roi.

M. Bocco, qui même sa recherche sur les tribus dans le sud de la Jordanie (particulièrement dans le Howaitan), considère que la notion de tribu est le vecteur d'un ensemble de valeurs qui exprime une identité construite.

La notion d'«Etat» suscite non-

moins d'ambiguïté que celle de tribu. Il y a en premier lieu l'Etat de la période mandataire. L'Emir Abdallah avait établi en 1924 un département des tribus chargé de créer un système de lois et de dresser une liste des tribus «accréditées». Il y eut ensuite l'Etat indépendant, et l'anthropologue en distingue un autre qui est celui des administrations.

Après avoir expliqué les difficultés méthodologiques qu'il a rencontrées, M. Bocco a exposé les thèmes qu'il a choisis pour réaliser son étude. Il s'agit des terrains de rencontre entre la tribu et l'Etat. Il analyse notamment la politique foncière de l'Etat jordanien, ou encore la politique de développement dans les régions dynamiques. L'administration publique au niveau local, de même que les élections législatives générales de novembre 1989, font partie de ces champs communs qui servent de base à l'étude. A titre d'exemple, Ricardo Bocco a montré l'affiche d'un candidat présentant les photos de son père et de son grand père (déjà députés) à côté de la sienne, dans le but de montrer aux électeurs qu'il représentait la continuité.

Contrairement à ce que pensent certains, Ricardo Bocco affirme que le tribalisme ne s'est pas effacé et qu'il n'a pas disparu. Les tribus représentent tout un système socio-politique que les autorités ont toujours cherché à consolider.

Mais ce système pourra-t-il résister encore longtemps aux défis de la vie moderne des Jordaniens, caractérisée de plus en plus par des rapports sociaux de nature capitaliste? Que dire des émeutes d'avril 1989 qui ont éclaté justement au sud du pays, dans les fiefs bédouins?

Suleiman Sweiss

Hospitalité

Perdre une roue sur la route des Rois aurait pu être une tragédie. Ce fut pour moi la chance de découvrir que l'hospitalité arabe n'est ni un vain mot ni une vieille tradition tombée en désuétude.

Nous étions cinq amis dans une petite voiture de location, en route vers Pétra. Sortis des pentes à pic du Wadi Mujib, nous décidâmes de faire une courte escale à Kerak pour acheter des boissons avant de reprendre la route. A peine quelques nous la ville que la voiture se mit à tanguer et s'effondra brutalement dans un bruit de ferraille épouvantable: la roue arrière gauche venait de se désolidariser de son essieu et nous dépassâmes avant de tomber sur le flanc, au bord de la route. Dans la nuit noire, nous pûmes retrouver la roue mais pas les boulons permettant de la retixer et de poursuivre notre chemin.

En désespoir de cause, il ne nous restait plus qu'à attendre au bord de la route qu'une voiture nous vienne en aide. La première que nous vîmes était un minibus municipal. Devant nos gémissements, il s'arrêta et deux jeunes hommes en descendirent. Sans hésiter et aussi rapidement que cela, ils nous invitèrent à passer la nuit chez eux.

La maison familiale nous fut grande ouverte. On s'assit par terre sur des matelas disposés en cercle, les bras posés sur des coussins moelleux. Tour à tour, tous les hommes de la famille vinrent nous souhaiter la bienvenue et s'installèrent avec nous pour discuter de notre aventure, de la crise du Golfe, et de bien d'autres choses. Un des garçons nous servit du thé, du café, de pain ou fut un vrai dîner: hommos, foul, purée d'aubergines, fromage blanc, confiture.

La famille est palestinienne, originaire de Gaza, et installée à Kerak depuis des années. Le père, un vieil homme âgé de plus de soixante ans, vit là avec ses fils, certains mariés d'autres non, leurs femmes et leurs enfants. Vers dix-heures, tout le monde part se coucher, sauf un des fils qui nous proposa de jouer aux cartes. Nous jouâmes pendant des heures, comme des amis de longue date, jusque tard dans la nuit.

Le lendemain matin, nous découvrons les femmes de la famille. La mère vient nous apporter un petit déjeuner copieux, l'épouse d'un des fils vient nous souhaiter le bonjour et nous petite fille d'une dizaine d'années vient discuter un peu avec nous et nous présenter son petit frère.

Le plus jeune des fils part chercher un mécanicien de ses amis, qui arrive avec des boulons neufs et remet en état notre voiture, nous permettant de nous rendre à Pétra.

Cette chaleur, cette entraide, cette amitié spontanée dénuée de toute méfiance ou arrière-pensée, auxquelles les Occidentaux sont si peu habitués, m'a réchauffé le cœur. En cette période de rapports politiques difficiles entre Occidentaux et Arabes, elles m'ont semblé prendre une dimension humaine délicate.

Ce séjour imprévu à Kerak restera un de mes plus beaux souvenirs, tout comme la découverte du temple rose de Pétra à travers les roches informes du débouché du Siq.

Jean-Marc Bordes

Sans blague!

Les procès du Moyen-Orient (suite)

A la demande de nombreux lecteurs, nous continuons, ci-dessous, le récit des procès du Moyen-Orient, dont la première partie avait paru dans notre numéro précédent. Toute ressemblance avec des personnages existant ou ayant existé ne serait que pure coïncidence.

[Résumé de l'article précédent: Le procès Palestine-Israël allait commencer au tribunal oussien. Javier, le juge de ce tribunal, avait cinq fils invisibles attachés à son visage, manipulés par les cinq Grands. Ceux-ci comprenaient deux gaillards: l'oncle Sam et l'ours, et trois dames: Albion, Marianne et Chine. Sam, devenu le plus fort des Grands, tenait le fil attaché au nez du juge; l'ours tenait le fil attaché à sa langue; Albion et Marianne tenaient chacune un fil attaché à l'une de ses oreilles et Chine le fil attaché à sa

perruque. Par ailleurs, pour satisfaire les besoins de ses enfants, dont une bonne partie s'adonnait à différentes, et onéreuses, formes de vice, Sam avait besoin de beaucoup de dollars. Pour s'en procurer, il avait eu recours au brigandage et avait réuni autour de lui des truands dont le moins scrupuleux était Israël. Sam, devenu le seul à pouvoir facilement dénicher de précieux dollars, lui l'ours se rapprocha de lui tandis que la vieille Albion, Marianne et Chine se disputaient ses faveurs...]

Palestine, dame vertueuse et distinguée, s'avancée dignement vers le banc des plaignants. Son avocat, Me Arafat, lui emboîta le pas.

Israël, suivi de son avocat Shamir, prit sa place au banc des accusés, non sans avoir lancé, en passant, un coup d'oeil complice à l'oncle Sam.

«Présentez votre plainte Me Arafat, demanda le juge.

«En bref, en 1919, des fils d'Albion furent envoyés comme experts pour améliorer (en principe) l'exploitation de la terre de ma cliente. Ceux-ci permirent à Israël et à bon nombre de ses enfants de venir vivre sur cette terre et les organisèrent en bandes armées, bien entraînées aux techniques du terrorisme et de la guerre. Lorsque le contrat des fils d'Albion vint à expiration en 1948, Israël et ses bandes prirent de force les trois quarts de la terre de Palestine et en chassèrent tous ses enfants qui durent aller travailler comme serfs sur les terres des autres. Non content de faire venir ses propres enfants sur la partie de la terre ainsi occupée, Israël se mit à y faire venir, et à adopter, tous les cancrelats et les vauriens qui étaient prêts à faire leurs terres natales. Devenu le moins scrupuleux des truands de l'oncle Sam...

«Silence, Me Arafat, rugit le juge. L'oncle Sam venait en effet de tirer avec pas mal de force les deux fils qu'il tenait: le sien et celui que l'ours lui avait laissé avant le début de la séance. Voyant Sam tirer sur ses fils, Albion tira si violemment sur le sien que le pauvre juge crut que son oreille droite allait s'envoler. Pendant ce temps, Chine continuait à dormir et Marianne continuait, distraite, à guetter Sam, qui, de temps en temps, lui faisait de l'oeil.

«L'oncle Sam n'est pas un accusé et vous devriez ne pas lui manquer de respect, continua le juge en se frottant vigoureusement l'oreille.

«Entendu votre honneur», répondit Arafat qui, au fond, n'aimait pas mécontenter l'oncle Sam. Il poursuivit: «En 1967, Israël envahit ce qui restait de la terre de ma cliente et se mit à maltraiter, d'une façon barbare et sadique, les enfants de Palestine restés sur leur terre. Malgré plusieurs décisions prises par votre honorable Cour enjoignant à Israël de se retirer de la partie occupée en 1967, Israël persista dans son refus d'évacuer ladite partie.

«Qu'avez-vous à répondre, Me Shamir?», demanda le juge.

«J'ai la preuve écrite, répondit Shamir en exhibant un exemplaire de la Bible, que Jehovah, le Créateur de tous les lopins de terre, a donné à Israël, non seulement la terre de Palestine, mais

aussi des parties importantes des terres de Syrie, de Jordanie, d'Arabie, d'Egypte et d'Irak.

«Mais la Bible, s'écria Arafat, a été écrite par les fils d'Israël bien après que Palestine n'ait acquis son terrain et ne peut, en aucun cas, être considérée comme document valable.» Puis, exhibant triomphalement un exemplaire du Nouveau Testament, il ajouta: «Par ailleurs, Jésus Christ, le seul parmi les enfants d'Israël à avoir été juste et fiable, a clairement affirmé que le Créateur ne s'était jamais occupé de distribuer des parcelles dans notre bas-monde.»

Sam, sentant que Javier (qu'il savait être un bon catholique) commençait à être influencé par les arguments d'Arafat, tira les fils qu'il tenait. Albion, le voyant faire, l'imita immédiatement et tira sur le sien.

Le pauvre Javier devint perplexe. Comment garder l'équilibre sur son nez, sa langue et son oreille droite tout en essayant de ne pas être trop injuste? Pourquoi Palestine n'avait-elle jamais accepté de flirter avec Sam? Pourquoi ses enfants ne s'étaient-ils pas mis à son service?

«Mais Palestine est musulmane et ne considère pas comme authentique le document que vous venez d'exhiber, finit-il par dire. Avez-vous un document à produire, Me Arafat?

«Non votre honneur, mais j'ai l'intention de faire entendre à l'honorable Cour le témoignage de tous les propriétaires des terres voisines, répondit Me Arafat.

«Il n'a pas de documents; il n'a pas de documents!», se mirent à scander l'oncle Sam et Albion en tirant sur les fils qu'ils tenaient.

«Mais, mes témoins!», s'écria Arafat.

«Silence Me Arafat, rétorqua le juge. En présence de documents, la Cour n'a pas besoin de perdre son temps à écouter des témoignages! De plus, si vous persistez à interrompre le cours de la justice, eh bien, je vous ferai sortir de la salle.»

Puis, se tournant vers l'audience il annonça: «Du fait que l'accusé possède un ancien document de propriété et du fait que ledit document ne donne pas les limites précises de la propriété promise par le Créateur, et tenant compte de la loi du fait accompli, je décide ce qui suit:

1) Le lopin occupé par Israël depuis 1948 devient sa propriété sans aucune restriction;

2) Le lopin occupé par Israël en 1967 devient également sa propriété, avec la seule restriction que les enfants de Palestine qui y vivent actuellement conservent le droit de continuer à y vivre (en cas de concentration ou ailleurs), à y être traités comme parias, à y crever et à y être enterrés.»

Palestine, démunie de sa terre, essayait en vain d'étouffer ses sanglots en pensant que ses enfants allaient continuer à souffrir, à lutter et à se faire tuer jusqu'à la libération de leur terre. Arafat, complètement abasourdi, se mit à crier: «Et les anciennes décisions de la Cour! Et les enfants maltraités!»

Le juge fit signe à Arafat de s'approcher et lui dit à voix basse: «Oncle Sam, chargé (de fait) de faire appliquer les décisions de la Cour, a fait valoir que les anciennes décisions de cette Cour s'étaient avérées inapplicables.» Puis, se tournant vers son huissier, il ordonna à haute voix: «Affaire suivante!»

Sabri Farah

EN BREF

Jordanie-Japon. Le premier ministre japonais, Toshiki Kaifu, a achevé jeudi une visite de deux jours à Amman, au cours de laquelle il a rencontré le roi Hussein ainsi que l'un des principaux dirigeants irakiens, Taha Yassine Ramadan. Il a annoncé à cette occasion une aide japonaise de 250 millions de dollars à la Jordanie, qui fait passer de 200 à 450 millions de dollars l'aide totale promise au royaume pour lui permettre de faire face à ses difficultés économiques. Lors de sa rencontre avec M. Ramadan, premier vice-premier ministre irakien, M. Kaifu a examiné la crise du Golfe et les moyens de la résoudre par les voies pacifiques. Mais il semble qu'aucun accord ne se soit dégagé lors de cet entretien. Il s'agissait de la première rencontre du chef de gouvernement d'un grand pays allié de l'Occident avec un haut responsable irakien depuis l'invasion du Koweït par l'Irak.

Carburant. Le premier ministre jordanien, Moudar Badrane, a annoncé jeudi que des mesures de rationnement des carburants étaient à l'étude et qu'elles devraient entrer en application dans les prochains jours. Le premier ministre a indiqué que la Jordanie est en contact avec des compagnies pétrolières internationales pour trouver des sources d'approvisionnement en remplacement de l'Irak, dont elle importait 90% de ses besoins pétroliers avant la crise à un tarif préférentiel de 16,4 dollars le baril. Amman continue à importer d'Irak près de 40% de son pétrole et les autorités jordaniennes ont affirmé à plusieurs reprises que la Jordanie poursuivra ses importations d'Irak tant qu'elle n'aura pas trouvé de solution alternative.

Diplomatie. Evgeni Primakov, conseiller politique du président soviétique Mikhail Gorbatchev, a remis au roi Hussein, à Amman, un message du numéro un soviétique portant sur la crise du Golfe et les efforts déployés en vue d'un règlement négocié de cette crise ainsi que des autres problèmes du Proche-Orient. Il s'est en outre entretenu dans la capitale jordanienne avec Yasser Arafat, auquel il a réaffirmé, selon une source responsable palestinienne, l'opposition de l'URSS au recours à une solution militaire pour régler la crise du Golfe. Il a ensuite quitté Amman pour Bagdad, où il a rencontré le président irakien Saddam Hussein. Là encore, il a insisté sur une solution négociée, passant inévitablement par un retrait préalable des troupes irakiennes du Koweït.

Irak-Koweït. Le président irakien Saddam Hussein a effectué mercredi sa première visite au Koweït depuis l'annexion de l'émirat le 2 août. Le président irakien et son cortège ont traversé des avenues désertes avant d'inspecter des positions de l'armée irakienne sur le littoral du Koweït. La télévision irakienne a diffusé le soir même des séquences filmées de cette visite dans une ville morte.

Porte-avions. Le porte-avions américain «Independence» est entré mardi dans le Golfe pour se familiariser, selon le Pentagone, avec ses «conditions opératoires particulières» et pour fournir une «démonstration visible de ses capacités opérationnelles à nos amis alliés de la région». Aucun porte-avions américain n'était entré dans le Golfe depuis le «Constitution», en octobre 1974, mais le pentagone souligne que cette opération «n'a pour but en aucune façon d'accroître les tensions régionales.»

Masques. L'ensemble de la population israélienne va recevoir progressivement des masques à gaz pour la défense anti-chimique, de même que les Palestiniens des territoires occupés, a annoncé lundi un porte-parole militaire à Tel-Aviv. Cette mesure a été prise après des distributions expérimentales de masques à gaz il y a quelques mois dans les localités de Shlomi (nord du pays) et Morasha (plaine côtière), a précisé le porte-parole, ajoutant que «cela ne signifie pas qu'Israël a déclaré l'état d'alerte».

Philippines. La présidente philippine Corazon Aquino fait face depuis jeudi matin à une nouvelle rébellion militaire déclenchée dans le sud du pays par un noyau d'officiers passés dans la clandestinité. Mme Aquino a déclaré à la radio qu'elle ferait usage, le cas échéant, de toutes les ressources du pouvoir pour écraser la rébellion, faisant allusion à son droit constitutionnel de décréter une loi martiale de trois mois.

Chine. Au moins 120 personnes ont été tuées et 53 autres blessées sur l'aéroport de Canton (sud de la Chine) après qu'un Boeing 737 détourné se soit écrasé sur la piste en raison de l'explosion d'une bombe à bord, apparemment déclenchée par les pirates de l'air. Aucune information n'a été fournie sur la destination des pirates de l'air, mais il semble hautement probable que ceux-ci entendaient gagner Taiwan, l'île nationaliste rivale de Pékin, qui fait face à Xiamen d'où l'avion avait décollé.

Union. L'Allemagne a recouvré son unité et sa souveraineté dans la liesse populaire mercredi, après 45 ans d'occupation par les vainqueurs du nazisme, puis de division dans la guerre froide. Mais des incidents ont aussitôt éclaté sur l'Alexander Platz de Berlin, entre opposants à l'unité allemande et forces de l'ordre, entraînant de nombreux blessés et 130 arrestations. Plusieurs dizaines de policiers ont été blessés par des jets de pierres, a déclaré la police, qui a eu recours à des canons à eau et à des gaz lacrymogènes.

Rwanda. La France, la Belgique et le Zaïre ont décidé d'envoyer des troupes et des armes au Rwanda, à la demande du gouvernement de Kigali, victime depuis mardi d'une attaque de rebelles rwandais venus d'Ouganda. Les rebelles ont lancé leur attaque mardi à l'aube contre les forces armées rwandaises dans le nord-est du pays. Petit pays francophone d'Afrique centrale, à l'est du Zaïre, le Rwanda est lié à la France par un accord de coopération technique et militaire, pour la formation du personnel sur place, mais il n'existe pas d'accord de défense entre les deux pays.

Evasion. Trois Britanniques et deux Français ont réussi à fuir le sud de l'Irak à bord d'une embarcation légère et sont arrivés mercredi sur la côte est de l'Arabie Saoudite. En 25 heures de voyage, à bord d'une petite barque de pêche en fibre de verre, ils ont descendu le Chant el-Arab (fleuve frontalier entre l'Iran et l'Irak) jusqu'aux eaux du Golfe, où ils ont d'abord trouvé une mer calme puis ont dû affronter des vagues de trois mètres avant d'arriver à bon port.

Inspection. Le président français François Mitterrand a effectué cette semaine la première visite d'un chef d'Etat occidental dans le Golfe depuis le début de la crise. Il est venu pour inspecter une partie du dispositif français dans la région, qui compte 4.000 hommes en Arabie Saoudite et 11.000 hommes dans toute la région si l'on inclut les forces en mer et celles stationnées à Djibouti. Il a souligné à cette occasion l'importance d'un «embargo sans faille» contre l'Irak qui reste la priorité de la France et constitue «une chance de résoudre le conflit». Accompagné du ministre des Affaires étrangères, Roland Dumas et du ministre de la Défense, Jean-Pierre Chevènement, le président a également rencontré le roi Fahd d'Arabie Saoudite et l'émir Zayed des Emirats Arabes Unis pour rassurer les monarchies du Golfe sur la fermeté de la France à l'égard de l'Irak et sa solidarité avec les Etats-Unis et l'Angleterre.

Remaniement. Le président français a procédé mardi au remaniement du gouvernement de Michel Rocard en changeant notamment les titulaires des portefeuilles de la Justice, de l'Agriculture et des Affaires Européennes. Henri Nallet, jusqu'alors ministre de l'Agriculture, remplace Pierre Arpaillange à la Justice, où il sera assisté par un ministre délégué en la personne du célèbre avocat Georges Klejman. Louis Mermaz remplace M. Nallet à l'Agriculture. Elizabeth Guigou, conseillère du président de la République devient ministre déléguée chargée des Affaires Européennes en remplacement d'Edith Cresson. Mme Cresson et M. Arpaillange quittent le gouvernement. Ce dernier est nommé président de la Cour des Comptes, grand corps de l'Etat chargé de contrôler l'utilisation par l'administration des fonds publics.

Fatalité. Stefano Casiraghi époux de la princesse Caroline de Monaco, est mort mardi, victime de sa passion pour l'offshore, à l'âge de trente ans. Champion du monde de cette Formule 1 de la mer, il a trouvé la mort sur la Côte d'Azur, au large de Saint-Jean-Cap Ferrat, alors que son catamaran filait en tête de la deuxième manche du championnat du monde. Heurtant une vague à une vitesse de plus de 150 km/h, le bateau s'est retourné tuant l'époux de Caroline sur le coup. En 1982, la princesse Grace, épouse du prince Rainier et mère de Caroline, Stéphanie et Albert, avait trouvé la mort dans un accident de voiture à quelques kilomètres de la principauté.

Jeux. Une soirée jeux de société est organisée cette semaine par le British Council. Pictionary, Trivial Pursuit, Monopoly et Scrabble sont notamment au programme. Centre britannique, le samedi 13 octobre, de 17h à 19h30.

Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient

L'IFAPO change de tête

Depuis le 1er octobre, un nouveau directeur est à la tête de l'Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient (IFAPO). François Villeneuve remplace à ce poste Georges Tate, qui dirigeait l'Institut depuis dix ans. Une bonne occasion pour dresser le bilan des activités de ce foyer scientifique français au Proche-

Orient; une bonne occasion aussi de dresser le portrait d'un homme, Georges Tate, qui découvrit l'archéologie en Syrie au début des années 1970 et qui, depuis, n'a cessé, et pour cause, de suivre de près les découvertes de l'IFAPO au Liban, en Syrie et en Jordanie.

«C'est un peu le hasard, l'IFAPO.» Historien de la formation, il est nommé professeur d'histoire au début des

années 1970, à l'école supérieure des lettres de Beyrouth, qui est une branche de l'Université de Lyon. Il entame alors une thèse sur les paysans de Syrie du nord, dont il reconstitue l'histoire à travers les vestiges archéologiques qui se trouvent en grande quantité dans la région. C'est ainsi que, peu à peu, au fil de ses séjours sur le terrain et de l'interprétation de ses découvertes, il devient archéologue.

Lorsque l'Ecole supérieure des lettres ferme ses portes en 1975, on lui demande tout naturellement de devenir le directeur adjoint de l'Institut d'Archéologie. A cette époque, l'Institut est en pleine évolution. Il porte encore le nom d'«Institut d'Archéologie de Beyrouth», mais plus pour longtemps. Né en 1946 sur les cendres de la vieille «direction générale des antiquités du Liban et de Syrie», fondée à l'époque mandataire, il se limite, jusqu'en 1973 à des activités de bibliothèque et de documentation. Deux pensionnaires sont élus régulièrement par un conseil pour y faire des recherches. Sur le terrain, une seule action est menée: celle d'un archéologue du nom de Tchelenko, dans le massif calcaire de Syrie du nord.

En 1973, un nouveau chantier est ouvert au Liban, au nord de Tripoli. La guerre, qui éclate en 1975 au pays du Cèdre, pousse l'Institut à entamer des recherches dans des zones plus sereines. C'est le début du chantier d'Araq el-Amir, à 20 km d'Amman. Ce site antique, installé dans un amphithéâtre de rochers, au bord d'un ravin, était habité dès l'âge du Bronze. On y a découvert, entre autres, le palais rectangulaire de Qasr el-Abd, érigé au alentours du IVème siècle av. J.C.

Ainsi, d'étape en étape, de chantier en nouveau chantier, l'Institut sort du cadre de Beyrouth pour étendre ses activités à la Jordanie et à la Syrie. En 1977, il devient l'Institut Français d'Archéologie au Proche-Orient. Il ouvre en 1978 un centre à Amman et un autre centre, en 1985, à Damas, affirmant sa vocation régionale. «Notre terrain d'action», explique Georges Tate, c'est celui de l'ancienne grande Syrie, qui couvrait ces trois pays. Sans renoncer à sa vocation documentaire, l'IFAPO s'ancre d'avantage sur le terrain et se lance de plus en plus dans des fouilles, souvent en collaboration avec les autorités et les archéologues locaux. En 1980, pour tenir compte de ces évolutions, on décide de nommer un homme de terrain à la tête de l'IFAPO dirigé jusque-là par des académiciens savants: cet homme, chargé d'incarner la nouvelle orientation, c'est Georges Tate. Installé à Beyrouth qui, à cause des circonstances, reste un centre purement administratif et d'édition, il dirige les travaux des équipes de Syrie et de Jordanie. Outre le site de



L'ancien directeur (à gauche) en compagnie du nouveau (à l'arrière-plan).

Syrie du nord, qui est celui de ses débuts et celui dans lequel il s'est personnellement impliqué, Georges Tate aime évoquer le site jordanien de Jerash. «C'est un de ceux qui m'a tenu le plus à cœur», dit-il. D'abord parce que c'est une coopération franco-jordanienne. Ensuite parce qu'elle ne se limite pas à l'étude d'un monument mais permet de comprendre l'évolution historique, sociale et culturelle d'une cité sur sept à huit siècles jusqu'à l'époque byzantine, à travers ses transformations, ses adaptations, son ouverture ou sa résistance aux influences extérieures.

Les résultats des travaux de l'IFAPO sont publiés par leurs éditions de Beyrouth. Une revue bi-annuelle, intitulée Syria, compte 350 abonnés dans le monde entier. Les ouvrages de fond sont édités au rythme de 1 à 6 par an, dans une collection intitulée «Bibliothèque archéologique et historique». Des livres parfois un peu difficiles, mais généralement accessibles à un public cultivé.

«Après dix ans il faut faire autre chose», dit Georges Tate pour expliquer son départ. Il rejoindra dans quelques jours son nouveau poste de professeur d'histoire et d'archéologie de l'Orient à Besançon (dans l'est de la France), mais assure qu'il reviendra dans la région bientôt pour poursuivre ses recherches.

Son successeur, François Villeneuve, s'est occupé du premier chantier en Jordanie, celui d'Araq el-Amir, et d'un village nabatéen près de Pétra où de très intéressantes découvertes ont été faites sur l'existence, à l'époque, d'une agriculture très développée, notamment grâce à un réseau d'irrigation très sophistiqué. Toute une civilisation sédentaire est en train d'être mise à jour.

Georges Tate qualifie son successeur d'homme «brillant».

«Le Jourdain» adresse ses félicitations au directeur partant et au nouvel arrivant.

Jean-Marc Bordes



Georges Tate, dix ans à la tête de l'IFAPO.

Vous écrivez?

Si la plume vous démange, que vous écrivez en français... «Le Jourdain» vous ouvre ses deux pages hebdomadaires. Vos idées de sujets, locaux et régionaux, comme vos suggestions y sont les bienvenues.

Jean-Marc Bordes, French section, Jordan Times.
P.O. Box 6718. Tél: 667171.

A L'AFFICHE

News at Ten Un nouveau générique

La deuxième chaîne de télévision jordanienne (JTV) a inauguré le 1er octobre un nouveau générique pour son journal quotidien d'actualité en langue anglaise, News at Ten. Murced Hamad, responsable du journal depuis avril 1990, explique les raisons qui ont motivé ce changement dont il est l'initiateur.

Le Jourdain: Quelles sont les fonctions les plus saillantes d'un rédacteur en chef de journal télévisé?
Murced Hamad: J'en compte cinq: décider des titres du jour les plus brûlants pour le spectateur jordanien; préciser l'approche de chaque sujet et leur enchaînement thématique; se charger du montage des interviews et des reportages; et surveiller la qualité littéraire des textes. D'ailleurs, je trouve qu'un travail étroit avec l'équipe artistique de l'émission est une activité de grande valeur. Il est essentiel de renseigner les réalisateurs sur le contexte politique avant qu'ils fassent leur conducteur: une telle orientation les aide dans le choix de l'image juste.

LJ: Quelle est la signification d'un générique pour un service d'information?

MH: Elle est fondamentale. C'est le drapeau de l'émission. Son identité. Son message. N'oublions pas que la création d'une nouvelle écriture pour News at Ten s'inscrit dans l'effort général de la JTV pour se réformer par une modernisation de moyens, aussi bien que d'apparence et de style. Dans la section anglaise, dont les débuts remontent à 1970, c'est le premier changement en une quinzaine d'années.

LJ: Comment fonctionne la nouvelle signature?
MH: Partons de l'indicatif musical. Un signal pulsant. Il alerte le spectateur, commande son attention. Le générique qu'il entraîne en fait autant. En une durée de 13 secondes, le spectateur se trouve gagné par un défilé dramatique d'images rapides, qui forment ensemble un double diptyque: quatre fenêtres sur le monde. A l'origine de ces fenêtres est le mot NEWS. Les choses se passent ainsi: emportées par la cadence de l'indicatif, les lettres N, E, W, S, viennent se mettre bout à bout sur un arrière-plan gris. A ce moment, le drame commence. Comme un parachute, la première des lettres tombe de façon verticale, ouvrant ainsi une première fenêtre. Tour à tour, le reste des lettres la suivent. En quelques secondes, le spectateur se trouve en face de quatre fenêtres supportées à la base par le mot NEWS et contenant un flot d'images à caractère politique et socio-économique, s'entretenant autour du drapeau de Jordanie.

LJ: Et qui a conçu cette idée?
MH: Les détails du générique sont dus à l'équipe de la JTV, notamment au graphiste Bassam Bayrouhi. Mais on ne peut pas dire que l'idée a été réalisée du jour au lendemain. L'évolution s'est faite lentement. Peu après ma nomination, j'ai ébauché le projet en esquissant quelques lignes directrices. Cherchant à donner au spectateur l'impression d'être plongé dans l'événement, je cherchais des images emblématiques et un son à la fois crescendo et urgent. La tonalité de l'image aussi était fondamentale pour moi. J'imaginai pour l'arrière-plan une image en instance de dévoilement. J'imaginai du gris. Puis, dès le mois de juin, l'idée commença à prendre tournure. La forme définitive est née grâce à une série de tentatives et pas mal de disputes avec mes collègues artistes.

LJ: Les changements dans le journal ne sont-ils que cosmétiques?
MH: Forme et substance sont étroitement liées. En étant plus concise, la forme nous permet d'introduire plus de sujets que par le passé. Le gain d'espace donnera plus d'ampleur aux reportages et aux entretiens avec les personnalités locales, un des grands buts de ce journal. On peut dire que le nouveau style a deux objectifs. Nous sommes très conscients qu'avec une durée de vingt minutes, News at Ten n'est pas une émission secondaire. Beaucoup de Jordaniens qui ont raté le journal de 20h comptent sur nous pour leur information. De plus, avec la mise en place de la démocratie en Jordanie, informer largement est devenu un devoir essentiel. Le nouveau style rend possible l'extension de notre champ d'exploration.

Propos recueillis par Sami Kamal

CINEMA

TELEVISION

DIMANCHE

17h30 - «Mort d'Orque». Téléfilm policier de la série «Les cinq dernières minutes».
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Carnet de notes. Extraits de musique classique.

LUNDI

18h00 - Denver, le dernier dinosaure. Dessin animé.
18h30 - Ca c'est du cinéma. Série sur les techniques du cinéma depuis l'époque de Charlie Chaplin.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Magazine sportif hebdomadaire.

MARDI

18h00 - Scientifica. Les concepts scientifiques de base, manipulés par des enfants à travers des expériences simples.
18h10 - L'école des fées. Des enfants interprètent le répertoire de Marc Lavigne, sous la houlette de Jacques Martin.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en Jordanie: magazine local réalisé et présenté par Saleh Madi.

MERCREDI

18h00 - Les défilés de l'Océan. Série documentaire sur les fonds sous-marins.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Sélection de musique arabe.

JEUDI

18h00 - «Mollissima»: dessin animé.
18h15 - Splendeur sauvage. Documentaire sur la vie des animaux.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Reportage.

VENREDI

17h30 - «Salut l'artiste». Film de cinéma.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Les révolutions de l'intelligence. Série documentaire sur l'histoire de la science.

SAMEDI

18h00 - Fruits de la passion. Le parcours d'un athlète célèbre.
19h00 - Le Journal.
19h15 - Aujourd'hui en France. Magazine culturel français.

CONFERENCES

Architecture. M. Taleb Rifai, professeur d'architecture à l'Université de Jordanie, propose une conférence en anglais sur «l'architecture résidentielle contemporaine en Jordanie». Il dressera notamment une comparaison entre l'architecture d'aujourd'hui et ses racines de l'ère ottomane.
Institut Goethe, le mardi 9 octobre à 19h.

EXPOSITIONS

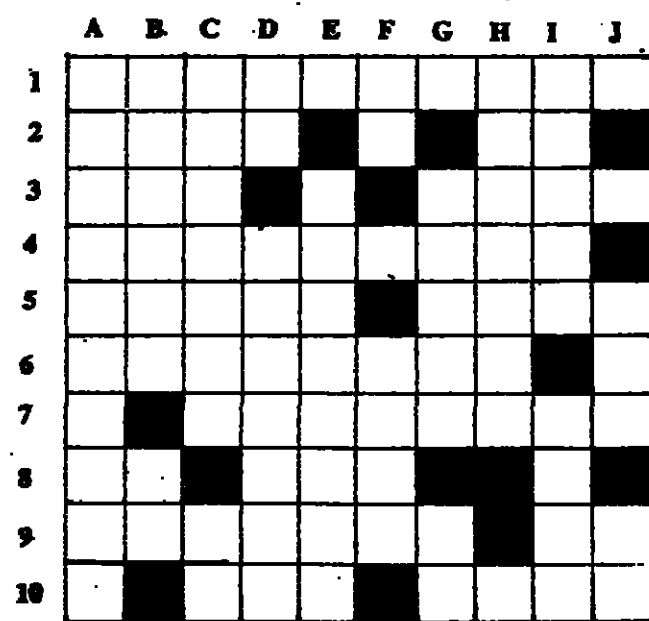
Forêt. Une série de photos prises par le célèbre photographe munichois Sigrid Neubert, présentent la forêt de Goethe. Cette forêt jordanienne, qui s'étend entre Tafleh et Shobak a reçu son nom par décret royal en 1987 pour honorer le travail des experts forestiers allemands en Jordanie.
Institut Goethe, du samedi 13 au 23 octobre 1990.

Sciences. Cette exposition est consacrée aux travaux de 24 scientifiques britanniques contemporains reconnus au niveau international. Certains le sont pour la révolution qu'ils ont provoquée dans le domaine des connaissances scientifiques, d'autres pour leur originalité ou leur impact sur la vie quotidienne.
Centre britannique, du dimanche 7 au 20 octobre.

J E U X

Mots croisés

par Florence Monelli



Horizontalement

1: revêt après avoir oublié. 2: petit âne; coordonne. 3: contenant; huit sec. 4: médecine. 5: ly fait plus frais qu'un soleil; mors. 6: redonner. 7: assumer. 8: préposition; pas fait. 9: reprises; habitudes. 10: démonstratif; reviennent chaque année.

Verticalement

A: ramènera. B: gigantesque; exclamation enfantine. C: qui peut être doté; arrêter phonétique. D: préposition; morceau. E: résister. F: pronom; valeur. G: villes; pronom. H: ils étaient 40 contre Ali Baba. I: sur la paill; touché. J: pièce étanche; nazi.

Solution

Horizontalement

1: redécouvre. 2: ânon; ou. 3: pot; die. 4: praticien. 5: ombre; usé. 6: relancer. 7: endosse. 8: en; cru. 9: rachats; us. 10: ces; éds.

Verticalement

A: rapportera. B: énorme; na. C: double; ce. D: en; tranche. E: tendras. F: on; coût G: ciels; sr. H: volcans. I: ruiné; émus. J: sus; m.

LE SAVIEZ-VOUS ?

BRONTOSAURE. Des os d'un squelette de «Liopleurodon», un reptile marin long de 4,50 mètres qui vivait il y a 150 millions d'années, a été découvert dans une décharge publique de Peterborough (est de l'Angleterre). Le musée de la ville a l'intention d'exposer ces restes, qui sont, selon les spécialistes, les plus belles pièces de ce genre découvertes depuis cinquante ans en Grande-Bretagne.

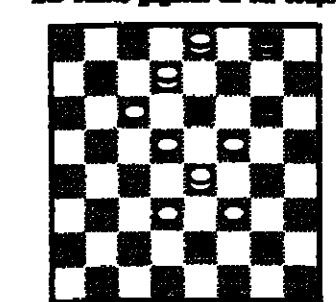
PERLES. Dans le cadre de la diversification des secteurs d'activité de son économie, l'Etat de Bahreïn envisage de relancer l'industrie de la perle, florissante jusque dans les années trente. Les efforts du gouvernement ont été récemment stimulés par la découverte, dans les eaux territoriales de l'émirat, de bancs d'huîtres par un bateau spécialement équipé. Les spécimens recueillis ont montré que la taille moyenne des huîtres est de 60 millimètres et qu'elles ont des couleurs variées en raison de l'influence des sources sous marines d'eau douce, qui sont l'une des curiosités géographiques de Bahreïn.

EXPATRIES. Près de 587.000 Japonais - soit un Japonais sur 200 - vivaient en 1989 hors des frontières japonaises. C'est 7% de plus que l'année précédente, avec une augmentation sensible des étudiants, des hommes d'affaires, des femmes et des enfants notamment en Amérique du Nord, au Brésil et en Europe.

DAMES

Problème N. 31.

Les blancs jouent en six coups.



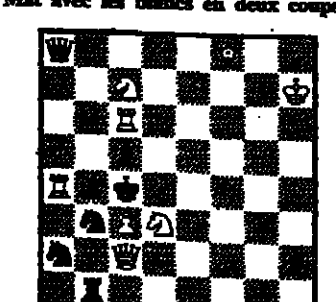
Solution du problème N. 30:

B. 5-10; N. 27-20; B. 10-6; N. 3-10; B. 19-15; N. 10-12; B. 21-23.

ECHECS

Problème N. 31.

Mas avec les blancs en deux coups.



Solution du problème N. 30:

Td5-g5.

Economy

Mayor plans 15,000 job cuts New York City 'is in deep trouble'

NEW YORK (R) — New York City, which barely skirted bankruptcy in the 1970s, is in major trouble again with its mayor threatening to dismiss 15,000 workers next month to meet a \$1.4 billion budget deficit.

The city's revenues are badly lagging behind projections as a regional recession takes hold and fears increase that a national one is on the way.

New York is also reeling from a crime wave that has so frightened residents nearly half of them are telling pollsters they would move elsewhere if they could.

And Friday, figures were released showing unemployment in the city soared to 260,000 for September, up 57,000 from August. The rise in unemployment appeared to be due to furloughs in the private sector.

Mayor David Dinkins tried to allay fears about crime Tuesday by announcing a \$1.8 billion, four-year plan to hire thousands of police officers.

He followed that by granting teachers a generous 5.5 per cent pay rise. Then, he announced he was ordering a freeze on new hires for all departments except for the police and warned that he may have to fire 15,000 workers.

Dinkins, the first black ever elected mayor of New York, has been criticised for weeks for being indecisive or for treating

the city's problems cavalierly.

But in the space of four days, New Yorkers are now saying he is making too many decisions — with each new announcement seeming to counter its predecessor.

Legislators are balking at the mayor's proposals to pay for increased police protection by slapping new taxes on commuters and placing a surcharge on state lottery tickets.

Labour unions are furious at his proposal to trim jobs from the city's 330,000-member work force.

One labour leader, Barry Feinstein of the Teamsters Union, said: "What the mayor did was a declaration of war. He dumped on every worker in the city. We will respond in kind."

The last time New York dismissed employees was in 1975 in the midst of a financial crisis brought on by years of borrowing.

Felix Rohatyn, the financier who led the city's painful 1970s rescue, said New York "is in deep trouble."

He blamed the Mayor's approach to governing for part of the problem.

"What's happening is a consequence of actually doing things piecemeal, of having the labour (teachers) settlement before you can gauge how weak the city's economy is," said Rohatyn.

Third World faces multi-billion dollar rebuilding spending

WASHINGTON (R) — The roads, bridges and infrastructure essential to economic development are crumbling throughout the Third World and it will take hundreds of billions of dollars to correct it, World Bank officials have said.

"There is an infrastructure crisis of vast proportions that may undermine attempts in the developing world to come to grips with economic reform," said one official.

The bank has ordered a major study to measure the depth of the crisis and decide what might be done to deal with it. The study is due to be finished early next year.

"We are talking about a problem that will cost hundreds of billions of dollars to resolve," said bank official Arturo Israel, who is conducting the research.

The price tag for roads alone is staggering. In a 1988 study, the bank estimated that in the 85 developing countries that receive its assistance, some \$90 billion will be needed over 10 years — and that is if everything goes right.

There are roads in Africa that

have virtually disappeared, re-taken by nature because of almost absolute neglect.

In Cairo, the water and sewerage system built around 1900 is falling apart, and the repair costs will be astronomical.

In Jakarta, the interurban freeway is excellent but the roads that lead from it are unpaved and sometimes seem to peter out in the surrounding swamp.

In Lagos, industries are constructing their own ultra-expensive power generating systems because the municipal grid is unreliable, plaguing citizens and companies alike with brownouts and interruptions.

Mexico City has a good underground railway system but the cost of building it was so high that many other basic services have been neglected.

Even in the industrial world, particularly the United States, there are huge problems.

The vast American interstate highway system constructed in the 1960s and early 1970s is beginning to crumble in places, putting yet another strain on the deficit-plagued U.S. budget.

Algeria to set up embryonic stock market

ALGIERS (R) — Algeria plans to set up an embryonic stock market by the end of the month, an unprecedented move for its state-dominated socialist economy.

Abdul Aziz Korichi, delegate for reforms at the prime ministers office told a conference on state firms Saturday: "In the next 15 days we plan to set up a financial transactions company... a stock market."

He did not elaborate but the government has already said it planned to introduce a limited form of stock trading in which the country's autonomous state firms could buy and sell each other's shares.

More than half the country's 459 state firms have become autonomous under economic reforms launched in the mid-1980s that have dismantled central planning.

Shares in the firms are now held by eight giant state holding companies.

The reforms make the enterprises independent profit centres responsible for their own budgets, pricing and production targets in response to market forces.

Fiat profits drop 12.6%

TURIN (R) — Italian automaker Fiat SPA has blamed tougher market conditions and rising inflation at home for a bigger than expected drop in profits in the first half of 1990. Fiat, Italy's largest private-sector company with interests ranging from cars to defence, telecommunications, publishing and financial services, said pre-tax profits fell 12.6 per cent to 2.45 trillion lire (\$2.1 billion).

TWA to cut staff, may reduce flights

CHICAGO (R) — In yet another sign of troubled times in the airline industry, Trans World Airlines Inc. (TWA) said Friday it is laying off between 450 and 500 staff and may cut some flights.

TWA spokesman Donald Morrison said the airline is cutting management and clerical staff to help defray higher fuel costs. The cuts will not affect flight operations, he said, but the airline is considering reducing flights to certain cities to squeeze costs further.

"All of this is fuel-cost related," Morrison said. "We're paying well over a dollar a gallon for jet fuel."

Jet fuel, which accounts for about 15 per cent of an airline's costs, has risen to around \$1.05 to \$1.10 a gallon (3.8 litres) since Iraq's takeover of Kuwait. Before the invasion, it was about 60 cents a gallon.

Morrison said the latest decision is unrelated to TWA Chairman Carl Icahn's actions over the summer to eliminate unprofitable routes.

Earlier this year, TWA closed its operations at seven airports, including Stuttgart, Germany, Chicago's Midway, Long Beach and Burbank, California, Madison, Wisconsin, and Freeport and Nassau in the Bahamas. On Oct. 28, TWA will also shut down operations in Oslo, Norway, and Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, Morrison said.

Although a number of airlines are making cuts in the face of harder economic times, TWA is one of the more troubled members of the industry. It was already plagued by operating losses before Iraq's takeover of Kuwait.

In the first six months of the year, TWA lost \$39.7 million, a figure boosted by one-time gains from asset sales in the second quarter.

Morrison said that although the layoffs will be made among the company's 3,000 employees worldwide, the bulk of them will come in St. Louis, Missouri, and New York, TWA's main hubs, and in Kansas City, where its aircraft maintenance operation is located.

EC agrees to British terms for sterling's entry in ERM

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) accepted Saturday Britain's provisional terms for joining the European exchange rate mechanism (ERM), officials said.

After discussing figures and wording for five hours, senior EC monetary officials agreed that the pound sterling would join the ERM binding most of the 12-nation bloc's currencies Monday at a central rate of 2.95 marks per pound with six per cent fluctuation allowed on either side.

"It is in substance an agreement on two points, on the one hand 2.95 (as a central rate) and on the other the six per cent margin," Hans Tietmeyer, a board member of Germany's powerful Bundesbank central bank, told reporters.

After 11 years of courtship by other EC countries, Britain finally announced Friday it wanted sterling to join the ERM, which keeps movement in the relative rates of most EC currencies within fixed bands.

The acceptable spread between the central rate and the market rate for currencies in ERM before central banks intervene is either six per cent or 2.25 per cent.

Of the nine EC currencies already in ERM — Portugal and Greece have yet to join the system — only Spain's peseta is allowed a six per cent band, which provides greater flexibility in the management of a relatively weak economy.

All the others have opted for the 2.25 per cent band, trading monetary freedom for stability.

Officials said Britain's six per cent band was a transitional arrangement. They did not spend whether a timetable had been set for the pound to move into a narrower bracket, joining other major currencies.

The talks lasted almost six hours, but this did not imply that any major objections had been raised, the Bank of England's

Andrew Crockett said.

"There really was no significant questioning of the proposals," he said.

"It was an important event. I think everybody recognised it. There are 12 members of the Community and 26 members of the monetary committee and everybody wanted to speak," he noted.

The officials said Britain had made no particular promises to meet the assertion in a final communiqué that the ERM decision strengthened London's commitment to pursue firm policies against one of the EC's highest inflation rates.

Britain's ERM entry announcement Friday was twinned with a cut to 14 per cent from 15 per cent of its main interest rate.

Although lower interest rates could fuel inflation by encouraging higher spending, a stronger pound would have the opposite effect.

High energy prices hurt economies in Caribbean

MIAMI (R) — Rising fuel prices prompted by the Gulf crisis are pinching already fragile Caribbean economies heavily dependent on foreign oil, economists and officials say.

"They're going to be squeezed, there's no doubt about it," Anthony Maingot, a Caribbean specialist at Florida International University, told Reuters.

The impact is not uniform throughout the region — Maingot noted that most of the French and Dutch islands are thriving — and a promise from oil-producing Trinidad and Tobago to design a plan to help oil-thirsty neighbours could lessen the hardship.

But experts cite common areas of vulnerability for the tiny island nations' tourism, industrial and retail sectors.

Economists and local businessmen say they expect tourism, a mainstay of the region's economies, to fall off if transport costs keep rising and tough times crimp spending of potential vacationers in the United States and Europe.

"It will not help an already bad picture. With tourism revenues down, Government revenues down and gasoline (petrol) prices up, this is just another negative," said David Saul, Finance minister of Bermuda which, at around \$1.14 a litre, has some of the highest petrol prices in the world.

Higher fuel costs mean higher shipping fees, which in turn means higher costs — inflation — for just about everything on the import-dependent Caribbean economies, experts say.

"Fuel is not a trivial component of their (shipping) cost," said University of Miami economist Pat Fische.

Non-traditional industries such as Fashion could also face setbacks if higher shipping costs cut their competitiveness and foreign markets go into recession, said Keith Worrell, an economist at the Caribbean Development Bank in Barbados.

In Puerto Rico, for instance, all but two coal-fired factories run on electricity generated with foreign oil. Hector Jimenez, director of the Puerto Rico Manufacturers Association, forecast soaring costs, particularly for plants producing plastics and other petroleum-based products.

Cuba's energy-intensive nickel industry is in trouble, Maingot said. Havana in late August announced drastic fuel restrictions and said it would stop production at one of the island's three operating nickel plants. It even called on farmers to use draft animals to pull ploughs.

In Jamaica, which has deregulated most fuel prices, minister of mining and energy, Hugh Small, recently called for stepped-up efforts to improve fuel efficiency in the aluminium industry. That sector absorbs a fourth of the Jamaica's petroleum imports.

Because there is no budget U.S. government begins shutdown

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. government began shutting down all but essential services Saturday with President George Bush and Congress stalemated over a deficit-cutting budget package.

Congress passed a stopgap measure to keep the government in business until next Friday but Bush said he would not sign it until the legislature approved a satisfactory budget agreement. That meant the U.S. government was forced to start closing down at midnight Friday (0400 GMT Saturday).

"The hour of reckoning is at hand," Bush said in a statement Friday.

"Tonight because there is no budget, the United States government under existing law does not have the authority to continue operations," he declared.

The Park Service prepared to close the Statue of Liberty, the Washington Monument and other tourist attractions.

Tours of the White House were cancelled and clean-up at hazardous waste sites ceased.

Border inspections were delayed because non-essential federal workers were being sent home.

But U.S. military operations worldwide, including the deployment of more than 150,000 troops in the Gulf to oppose Iraq's takeover of Kuwait, were exempt from the disruption, the White House said.

Only services needed "to protect life and property" were authorised in the absence of a budget pact. Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Richard Darman said in a memorandum to agency heads.

The brinkmanship followed the House of Representatives' rejection Friday of a package designed to cut the deficit by \$500 billion over the next five years.

With the three-day Columbus holiday weekend starting, the brunt of the shutdown would not be felt until Tuesday when federal workers normally return to their jobs.

Technically, the authority to spend ran out at midnight, when a previous seven-day stopgap measure expired.

White House spokesman Martin Fitzwater said Bush viewed the disruption as the price of

getting Congress to put the nation's fiscal house in order.

"We think this is an important exclamation point to put on the valuable work that needs to be done," he told a news conference at the White House 90 minutes before the midnight shutdown began.

Earlier, the White House sent out government-shutdown orders instructing all weekend personnel to report to work "for the sole purpose of engaging in orderly shutdown activities."

If the budget deadlock was not resolved by Tuesday, all employees were to report to work any way, OMB said in instructions to agency heads. If a stopgap spending measure were not signed into law by then, non-essential personnel were likely to be sent home within a few hours.

By refusing to sign the emergency legislation Congress approved late Friday, Bush was pressing lawmakers to act fast on a deficit plan before the full impact of the closure was felt Tuesday.

"Surely the reality of a government shutdown will convince everyone that a solution must be found," Bush said, urging Republicans and Democrats to get back to the negotiating table.

Neither Bush nor Democratic congressional leaders were able to muster a majority of their rank-and-file in support of the deficit reduction package, which included higher taxes on gasoline, beer, wine and cigarettes and cuts in health spending.

Japanese firms pay lowest dividends on record

TOKYO (AP) — Japanese companies had strong earnings in fiscal 1989 but paid out a record low rate of dividends for the third consecutive year, stock exchange officials have said.

The National Conference of Stock Exchanges, which groups the country's eight exchanges, said that in the year ending March 31, net earnings, the source of dividend payments, increased 22.6 per cent from the previous fiscal year.

However, many companies paid out the same dividends, causing the ratio of dividends to earnings to fall to 27.64, its lowest level since the association started surveying trends in dividends 21 years ago. Officials said the ratio has been declining over the last three years.

The association said this year's findings were based on a survey of 1,971 companies listed on the eight exchanges, which closed their fiscal year March 31.

Exchange officials said Japanese companies, while hoping to boost dividends, ended up either leaving them unchanged because of their lack of "flexibility" or making only small increases.

Japanese companies have often been criticised for paying low dividends. Until this year's stock market plunges, investors customarily sought return on their investments as capital gains rather than dividends.

The survey also revealed, however, that 27.6 of the responding companies raised dividends, the largest on record; 53.8 per cent left them unchanged.

Romania to withhold energy from unprofitable factories

BUCHAREST (R) — Prime Minister Petre Roman sounded a death knell for unprofitable Romanian factories Friday by saying they would get no fuel this winter even if it meant closing them down.

Romanian economic analysts said this could spell disaster for dozens of big factories notorious for inefficiency and for wasting energy. Many factories use 10 times more fuel per production unit than Western plants, they said.

A senior official said that while the government would hit industry hard, it was determined to keep Romanians warm and their homes well-lit.

Romania was hit by serious shortfalls in petrol, coal and natural gas production, aggravated by high fuel prices because of the Gulf crisis.

"These shortcomings, and the rise in oil prices on the world market, will lead to a worrying situation that will be hard to overcome in the next six months," he said.

"For the last three months of 1990 we envisage a (trade) deficit of \$1 billion," he said, adding that this was mainly the result of the energy shortages which Romania had to bridge through imports at the new high prices.

"We must distribute energy with the utmost stinginess. This is a very tough decision. Especially for enterprises that have worked badly, this is practically a death sentence. But on the other hand, it is an act of justice, especially towards other enterprises which have worked normally," he pointed out.

Roman, reflecting the national Salvation Front (NSF) government's fear of unrest in a nation fed up with shortages, said household heating and power would not be rationed.

"An austerity programme will be forced on industrial units,"

said Emilian Simian from the government's electricity and heating department.

"The population's electricity needs will get priority during the winter," he said. Until now households had used seven per cent of Romanian electricity while industry ate 84 per cent.

The government last week scrapped energy price subsidies for industry, raising industrial fuel prices by about one third to make factories pay the same as the man in the street.

It was the first major abolition of subsidies of its kind since the NSF took power last December after an uprising in which communist dictator Nicolae Ceausescu was toppled and executed.

Romania, plagued by shortages and industrial paralysis, has been hard hit by the Gulf crisis. It had counted on Iraq for a quarter of its oil imports under arrangements with Baghdad for the repayment of \$1.7 billion of debts which Iraq owed to Bucharest.

U.S. trade with communist countries falls into deficit

WASHINGTON (R) — American trade with communist nations fell into a deficit of \$929 million in the first quarter of 1990, against a \$353 million surplus in the same period last year, according to a study by the U.S. International Trade Commission.

The study showed U.S. exports to non-market economies fell by 13.4 per cent to \$2.7 billion, chiefly because of lower grain shipments to the Soviet Union and China.

At the same time, it said imports from central economies, many now changing over the capitalism, rose by 31 per cent to \$3.7 billion due chiefly to more manufactured goods shipped from China.

The commission, an independent agency that does research for the U.S. Congress, said U.S. exports to the Soviet Union amounted to \$1.2 billion in the January-March period, down from \$1.5 billion in the first quarter of 1989.

U.S. exports to the Soviet Union are chiefly corn and wheat, and the amount exported often depends on whether Soviet harvests provide enough food for domestic consumption.

U.S. exports to China fell to \$1.2 billion, from \$1.5 billion, while imports rose to \$3.1 billion from \$2.3 billion.

The commission said major imports from China were telephone sets, radio reception equipment, electric fans, toys, games, sports gear and textiles and clothing.

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Grenade attack kills Mandela's infant relative in Soweto — ANC

JOHANNESBURG (R) — A child relative of Nelson Mandela was killed in a hand grenade attack early Saturday in Soweto, the African National Congress (ANC) said.

A 2 a.m. blast ripped through a building in the Meadowlands district of the black township near Johannesburg, killing an infant girl and injuring her parents.

First reports said the child was the great granddaughter of the anti-apartheid leader who is ANC deputy president.

But the ANC was less precise later, declaring a grenade and shotgun attack was launched on the home of Mr. Monde Mandela, "a close relative" of twice-married Nelson Mandela.

"Monde Mandela and his wife suffered extensive burns, and their one-year-old daughter was killed in the attack," a statement added.

It said Monde Mandela's grandfather was the brother of

Nelson Mandela's father.

The ANC leader's daughter Zindzi earlier told reporters that the dead child was his great granddaughter.

However, Nelson Mandela's first wife Evelyn Nomathamsanga, asked to explain her relationship with the couple, told Reuters: "I have not heard of them."

Police said the child's parents, wounded by shrapnel, were being treated at Soweto's Baragwanath Hospital after the attack on their home in Meadowlands Hostel married quarters.

Police spokesman Govindasamy Mariemuthoo said: "A black male, Monde Mandela, 43, and his wife, Suzanne Mandela, 29, received injuries and a baby of 18 months died on the scene."

There was no indication of who was responsible for the attack, amid persistent conflict between supporters of Nelson Mandela's ANC and followers of the Zulu

tribal-based Inkatha Freedom Party that has killed nearly 800 people since mid-August.

"The ANC notes the curious coincidence of an attack on a man bearing the Mandela name at this time," the ANC statement said.

On Friday, the South African government lifted a night-time curfew in Soweto, near Johannesburg, saying black factional bloodshed and crime there had declined sharply.

The ANC has said Mandela would meet President F.W. de Klerk Monday in Pretoria to discuss the recent township violence around Johannesburg.

Mandela, 72, flew to the coastal Natal province, where ANC-Inkatha rivalry has claimed around 4,000 lives in four years, to address a rally.

Approached by reporters at Durban's airport to comment on the attack, he ignored their questions and drove away.

He was scheduled to return for

Monday's hastily-arranged Pretoria meeting with de Klerk.

His daughter Zindzi, born from his second marriage with his present wife Winnie, later said that she could not explain the exact family connection between the wounded couple and Nelson Mandela, who divorced his first wife.

Current black faction violence has arisen from a feud pitting migrant workers loyal to Inkatha against local residents of the Xhosa and other tribes, supporters of the ANC.

"Mandela last week said the government's National Intelligence Service (NIS) and army spies were using black agents disguised as Inkatha supporters, to launch random attacks and to provoke conflict."

Mandela and the leaders of the five South African tribal homelands said Friday they had agreed to form an anti-apartheid front for discussions with Pretoria on a non-racial democracy.

Caroline's husband buried in Monaco

MONACO (AP) — Several thousand tourists and Monaco residents crowded around the cathedral Saturday during a funeral for Princess Caroline's husband, Stefano Casiraghi, who died in a freak boat-racing accident.

The 33-year-old princess, wearing dark sunglasses, a heavy black-lace head covering and black dress, wept occasionally during the 55-minute service.

Casiraghi, 30, an Italian businessman, died instantly Wednesday when he and co-driver Patrice Innocenti flipped their racing boat at high speed during the second heat of the World Offshore Racing Championships.

The somersault ejected Innocenti, who was hospitalized with injuries. Casiraghi, defending the championship he won in 1989 at Atlantic City, New Jersey, remained strapped in the boat and died when it slammed him headfirst into the Mediterranean.

"The brutality of his death adds to our pain," intoned Archbishop of Monaco Joseph Sardaou during the solemn ceremony.

"The sea, so calm today, holds dangers that must constantly be confronted."

Caroline sat in the front row between her father, Prince Rainier, and brother, Prince Albert.

Princess Stephanie, Caroline's young sister, wept throughout and had to exit the service for a short time. Albert left briefly to comfort her.

Caroline's three children from her seven-year marriage with Casiraghi were not present.

Sardaou praised Casiraghi as "an exemplary sportsman and businessman," but added, referring to Caroline: "It was through his union with you, madame, that he found the greatest expression of his Christian faith."

Baker and Shevardnadze end talks without accord

NEW YORK (AP) — The two superpowers have concluded six hours of talks without achieving the deal they want for a reduction in long-range nuclear missiles by about 30 per cent.

But they may have improved prospects for success by the end of the year and a summit treaty signing in Moscow in December.

Secretary of State James Baker said after the talks Friday that the outcome depends on a dispute over transfers to allies of nuclear arms and technology that would be banned under the treaty.

He said he made "good progress" on the issue, known as non-circumvention, with Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze. He added that if U.S. and Soviet negotiators in Geneva follow through, two other obstacles might be cleared.

As a result, Baker said, a U.S.-Soviet treaty to reduce long-range nuclear missiles, bombers and submarines by the end of the year "is still very possible."

"We are tired," Shevardnadze said, "but the results are good."

The two other unsettled issues concern the kinds of tests the Soviets would be permitted to conduct of the 154 large SS-18 missiles they would be permitted to keep, and whether the Soviet Backfire bomber would be subject to numerical restrictions.

Apart from their work on strategic nuclear weapons, Baker and Shevardnadze cleared up the few remaining differences on another treaty to reduce North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and Warsaw Pact non-nuclear weapons in Europe. Agreement in principle on this treaty was announced Wednesday.

Baker said these issues involved ceilings on aircraft, zones in which arms would be limited and treatment of helicopters.

He provided no details. Shevardnadze said the result is the conventional forces in Europe treaty would be ready to sign at a 34-nation summit meeting in Paris Nov. 19-21.

"This is a major accomplishment," Shevardnadze said.

Further work on the lagging

strategic arms reduction treaty will be left to negotiators in Geneva.

The aim is to get the technical work done so the treaty can be concluded when Shevardnadze goes to Washington next month.

Baker and Shevardnadze held their first round at the Soviet mission to the U.N., and set the second session for the U.S. mission across the street from the world organization.

President George Bush would like to sign the treaty on long-range missiles with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev at a summit in Moscow in December.

Bush Thursday hailed the tentative accord on non-nuclear weapons, which would take a far bigger bite out of the Soviets' arsenal than the American arsenal. It would force the Soviets to remove thousands of tanks, artillery pieces and armoured vehicles from Central and Eastern Europe.

Bush said it would "decisively improve the balance of military power" on the continent.

The Conventional Forces in Europe (CFE) treaty would be the largest arms-control deal in history and the first in Europe since the end of World War II.

NATO and the Warsaw Pact each would be limited to 20,000 tanks, 20,000 artillery pieces, 30,000 armoured combat vehicles and 2,000 helicopters in the area stretching from Europe's Atlantic coast to the Ural Mountains inside the Soviet Union.

Meanwhile the Soviet Union's top military officer denied Friday that hundreds of modern Soviet tanks were pulled out of Eastern Europe to keep them from being counted under the expected CFE agreement.

"We have no plans to store or mothball large amounts of equipment that we are pulling out," General Mikhail Moiseyev, winding up a six-day U.S. visit in which he toured military bases and met hundreds of Americans.

U.S. Chief of Staff Colin Powell told reporters that he and other senior U.S. officials had been concerned about the tank movements in Europe.

COLUMN

Andrew, Sarah inaugurate new home

LONDON (R) — Britain's Duke and Duchess of York held a lavish housewarming party at their new ranch-style mansion with guests ranging from pop star Elton John to some of the men who helped build "Palace Dallas." Queen Elizabeth's second son, Andrew, and his wife Sarah are celebrating completion of the controversial 12-bedroom home that is believed to have cost \$5 million (\$9.5 million). Guests from show business joined old friends and family of the royal couple at the mansion, dubbed "Palace Dallas" in the popular media both for its opulence and its American ranch-style appearance. Also there rubbing shoulders with royalty were some of the builders, handymen and decorators who worked on the house, set in extensive grounds near Windsor Castle, west of London. None of Andrew's immediate family attended. The queen and her husband, Prince Philip, heir to the throne Prince Charles and his sister Princess Anne are in Scotland. Charles's wife Diana was travelling back from Washington and the queen's youngest son, Edward, was at an official dinner.

Jury finds arts centre innocent of obscenity

CINCINNATI, Ohio (R) — A jury took just three hours to clear Cincinnati's Contemporary Arts Museum and its director of obscenity charges brought for displaying erotic photographs by Robert Mapplethorpe. The exhibition included photos of partially-clothed children and others of men in homoerotic poses. Officials in this midwestern city of 370,000 people, where there are no pornography theatres or adult bookstores, said the photos were obscene and involved the illegal use of minors. But the jury of four men and four women found the photographs did not violate the law and cleared the museum and director Dennis Barrie of all charges.

Bahamas premier earns \$2 tip

NASSAU, Bahamas (R) — Bahamian Prime Minister Sir Lynden Pindling earned a \$2 tip. Pindling, who has just assumed the portfolio of minister of tourism, spent his first day on the job as a bellboy at a Paradise Island Hotel, the Caribbean News Agency (CANA) reported. "Welcome to paradise," he told visitors as they stepped out of their taxis. One gave him the tip. Pindling is trying to bring a new style and approach to the hotel industry. He said he would work at various jobs at hotels throughout his country in an attempt to instill a new attitude in the industry. On the job, he ate lunch in the staff cafeteria. CANA said he selected roast chicken, vegetables and a salad.

Brando trial postponed to Nov. 5

SANTA MONICA, California (AP) — An international battle over prosecution efforts to force actor Marlon Brando's daughter back to the United States from Tahiti led a judge Thursday to postpone the murder trial of Brando's son. Los Angeles county superior court Judge Robert Thomas gave prosecutors more time to continue legal efforts to obtain the testimony of Cheyenne Brando in a trial stemming from the killing of her Tahitian lover. In one of her conflicting statements to authorities, Miss Brando said she was present during the May 16 shooting of her boyfriend, 26-year-old Dag Drollet. Christian Brando, 31, charged with murdering Drollet and free on \$2 million bail, attended the hearing but did not speak to reporters. Thomas set a tentative date of Nov. 5 for a trial that had been scheduled to start next week. But the judge said that date also could be changed if witnesses are unable to readjust their schedules. The delay was vehemently opposed by Christian Brando's lawyer, Robert L. Shapiro, who insisted that the trial should go forward as quickly as possible. He said Miss Brando was mentally unstable and would not be a credible witness even if she returned from Tahiti and agreed to testify. Shapiro told the judge that Miss Brando has given five conflicting statements to authorities about the slaying at the actor's hilltop estate.

29 MPs demand Singh's resignation

NEW DELHI (AP) — Twenty-nine lawmakers of Prime Minister V.P. Singh's Janata Dal Party have demanded his resignation, bringing into the open simmering dissidence in the 10-month-old minority government.

In a letter to Singh, the lawmakers held him morally responsible for what they called "all-round failure" of the government, United News of India said.

It was the first time that Singh's resignation had been publicly demanded within the Janata Dal, the largest constituent of the governing National Front Coalition.

United News of India said the names of the dissident leaders were released by Yashwant Sinha, who is closely aligned with a rival group within the Janata Dal. Sinha did not release a copy of the letter.

"We want the National Front government to complete its full term of office and hence are demanding the change in leadership," Sinha said.

The development was the latest crisis to have engulfed Singh since he took office last December.

The government is battling to put down riots by upper caste

Hindus sparked by Singh's decision to reserve nearly half of federal jobs for low-caste Hindus. At least 83 people have died in clashes and a rash of protest suicides since Aug. 7.

Besides, 57 people have been killed this week in battles between Hindus and Muslims. The violence is apparently related to a proposal by Hindu fundamentalists to build a temple on the site of a 400-year-old mosque.

The first signs of dissidence in the Janata Dal emerged on Sept. 30 when a top party leader, Devi Lal, resigned his parliament seat to protest Singh's handling of the job quota plan.

On Friday, Sinha said he was aware that he did not have the majority to remove Singh, but "the day is not far off" when the required strength would be garnered, United News reported.

The Janata Dal controls 136 seats in the 529-member Lower House and 38 seats in the 245-member Upper House of parliament. The dissidents will need a simple majority to force Singh to step down.

Meanwhile police fired on rioting prisoners at a maximum-security jail in the capital Friday,

killing seven inmates and wounding 107 others, a senior jail prison official said.

At Least 76 jail officials also were injured in the riot at Tihar Jail on the southwestern outskirts of New Delhi, Hari Prem Kumar, the inspector general of prisons, told reporters.

Kumar said about 2,500 inmates rioted for more than three hours and also tried to escape.

Press Trust of India (PTI) said the riot was sparked by the death of an inmate Thursday night and later turned into a mass escape attempt. The rioters claimed that jail officials failed to give the inmate adequate medical treatment, the news agency said.

It quoted jail authorities as saying the prisoner, Hari Singh, died of natural causes. But the United News of India, said there was a report that Singh died in a clash between rival gangs.

The agency said some prisoners went to the kitchen in the jail complex Friday morning and set fire to cylinders of cooking gas. Some then climbed to the roof of the prison building in a bid to escape, the agency added.

Delhi: Pakistan shelling border

NEW DELHI (AP) — Pakistan has intensified shelling on the border with Kashmir to provide cover for armed Muslim militants who are sneaking to India, a Foreign Ministry spokesman has said.

"A pattern of unprovoked heavy shelling by Pak forces has emerged since it started in the middle of August," spokesman Aftab Seth said Friday.

He said Pakistani troops have shelled specific areas to create a diversion and cause an "unparalleled spurt of infiltration by Kashmiri militants trained in Pakistani camps."

India often accuses Pakistan of arming and training Muslim militants in camps inside Pakistan and sending them across to Kashmir where they are waging a separatist war.

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ROYAL JORDANIAN

Filipino rebel colonel surrenders

CAGAYAN DE ORO (R) — The leader of a two-day revolt in the southern Philippines surrendered Saturday after failing to win support for an insurrection that the military said was designed to culminate in a Manila coup.

"It's all over. I gave myself up without any conditions," said renegade Colonel Alexander Noble, after abandoning the military camp he took over two days earlier. He had earlier vowed to die for his cause.

Noble and several hundred rebel soldiers, militiamen and tribesmen took over military camps in three southern Philippine cities early Thursday in an uprising to win independence for Mindanao, the second largest island in the Philippine archipelago.

But the insurrection failed to trigger revolts apparently planned for other parts of Mindanao and a demoralised Noble gave himself up early Saturday to

Aquilino Pimentel, a senator from Cagayan De Oro.

The military said 200 of Noble's men had also either surrendered or been captured and others were being hunted down.

Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos and military commanders told a news conference in Manila that Noble expected to trigger a series of pocket rebellions around the country that would lead to the eventual removal of President Aquino. Ramos called it "a failed coup."

"They thought it would snowball into something that would end up in Manila being threatened itself," declared General Rodolfo Biazon, deputy armed forces commander.

Armed Forces Chief General Renato de Villa said the failure of the revolt had dealt a serious blow to army rebels still plotting to oust Aquino, who has survived six coup attempts in the more than four years since he was swept to power in a 1986 popular

revolt against the late President Ferdinand Marcos.

"It seems that Noble was promised a lot of support... we believe that at the moment of crisis many of his friends and those who promised him support abandoned him," De Villa said.

President Aquino, in a statement issued in Manila, said Noble had no alternative but to surrender or die inside the camp he had taken.

She called for strengthened legislation against coups in the Philippines, and thanked military officers who had helped put down the revolt.

"Let me be precise once again by stating that the constitution will be upheld, with force if need be, as the government has done," she stated.

Noble, wearing army fatigues and a red tribal scarf wrapped around his head, called for Aquino to resign "for the sake of peace, unity and genuine reconciliation in our land."

Osaka police, workers clash during riots

OSAKA (R) — Hundreds of angry workers clashed with police Saturday in the Japanese city of Osaka's fifth day of blue-collar riots against alleged police corruption.

Pitching stones and glass bottles, an estimated 1,000 workers battled 2,500 helmeted police brandishing shields and batons in Japan's biggest riots for almost two decades.

Clashes flared just as work began to clear the streets of debris from the previous four days of rioting — burnt cars, bicycles and vending machines.

Shouting obscenities and hurl-

ing stones, shabbily-dressed labourers renewed their advance on a police station in the Nishinari Aisin slum of Osaka, Japan's second largest city.

Several hundred teenagers also joined the protests that began last Tuesday after reports that a Nishinari detective was suspected of receiving pay-offs from two gangsters who traditionally prey on the labourers.

Police Friday dismissed detective Tsutomu Haga, 38, from the force following his arrest two days earlier on suspicion of receiving 10 million yen (\$74,000) for ignoring gang activity.

The gangsters, or Yakuza, belong to two of the estimated 45 syndicates that operate booking offices in Nishinari to recruit the workers for manual day jobs at lower-than-average wages.

"The police and the Yakuza are like one gang. If we need police protection from the gangs, they never help," said a labourer who lives in Nishinari, home to 20,000 day workers.

The protesters demanded an official apology and the release of 52 rioters arrested this week.

But an Osaka police spokesman said authorities will not comply with the workers' demands.

Discovery returns NASA to space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (R) — The space shuttle Discovery successfully lifted off Saturday, pulling the U.S. space programme out of a five-month slump blamed partly on exasperating fuel leaks.

Discovery, the only one of three U.S. shuttles not grounded by dangerous hydrogen seepage, lifted off at 7:47 a.m. EDT (11:47 GMT), carrying a controversial, nuclear-powered European science satellite on the start of an unprecedented polar orbit around the sun.

"Lift-off of Discovery and the Ulysses spacecraft going to the polar regions of the sun," said launch commentator Lisa Malone, a spokeswoman for the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA).

About nine minutes later, the shuttle was on its way to orbit and the start of a four-day mission. Ulysses, built by the European

Space Agency, was to be released by Discovery's five-man crew about six hours after launch, NASA said.

NASA's other two shuttles have been grounded since May because they sprang dangerous hydrogen leaks during fuelling. Discovery rode a column of fire and smoke southeastward from its launch pad, soaring above a rising sun partly obscured by wispy pink clouds.

The launch was delayed about 12 minutes by several minor problems that were solved quickly during the final minutes of the countdown.

Discovery lifted off in spite of protests from several environmental and anti-nuclear groups that tried to win a federal court injunction against the launch.

The opponents argued that there was risk of radioactive fallout if the shuttle had an accident with nuclear-powered Ulysses

aboard. They say safer solar power should be used, but U.S. district Judge Oliver Gasch threw out their petition Friday morning in Washington.

Almost 11 kilograms of plutonium 238 will generate electricity for Ulysses as the probe orbits the sun between Mars and Jupiter.

The probe is to become the first spacecraft ever put in polar orbit around the sun and scientists expect its five-year voyage to provide a new vantage point on sunspots and solar flares.

Discovery's all-military crew is commanded by Navy Captain Richard Richards. Marine Lieutenant Colonel Robert Cabana is the pilot. The three mission specialists are navy Captain William Shepherd, Coast Guard Commander Bruce Melnick and air force Major Thomas Akers.

